

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.
THE GENERAL MEETING OF
THE SOCIETY ; THIRTY-FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ; AND PAPER READ BY
SIR JOHN STIRLING MAXWELL,
BART., F.S.A., JUNE, 1908.

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ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee has much pleasure in laying before the members of the Society the following notes on some of the more important cases which have received its attention during the past year.

In doing so it has felt obliged to condense the information given as far as possible, but it hopes in spite of this that the Report will be found interesting, and that it will shew the advances which the Society is making in attaining its object.

Aylesford Bridge, Kent.

This bridge has been referred to on several occasions in the Annual Reports of the Society and in the last (page 9) it was mentioned that owing to the probability of certain monetary difficulties being overcome, it was again threatened with destruction.

During the past year the position has become acute, and an enquiry was held by the Kent County Council as to a proposal to demolish the bridge and to build a new one. With a view to assisting those who were opposing the destruction, the Society drew up a statement in support of the preservation of the bridge and also communicated with the Kent County Council.

The Committee is glad to state that the Bridges and Roads Committee reported to the Council "that there are not sufficient grounds to justify the demolition of the bridge, and they accordingly recommend that no action be taken for its removal, or for the erection of a new bridge across the Medway at this point." The Council received and adopted this report ; and thus the question is settled, at least for a time, in favour of the preservation of the bridge.

This, however, is a case which will require unremitting vigilance on the part of the Society, and of those living in the neighbourhood and county who are interested in the welfare of the bridge, to whose efforts the present success is largely due.

Bacton Church, Herefordshire.

A description of the tower of this building was given in the Report for 1905 (pages 5-7), and in the last Report (page 10) it was stated that the necessary repairs to the tower were to be begun at an early date under the supervision of the Society, and would be described in the present Report.

On examining the foundations of the tower they proved to be well built and sound. The structure seems to have settled considerably at the time it was built, causing serious cracks in the south and west walls, which, in course of time, became worse and allowed the wet to penetrate into and disintegrate the walling. In late years the ivy, which was allowed to grow un-

checked, forced its way through the walls and displaced several portions of the facing.

The walls are, at the ground level, four feet three inches thick, and are faced with sandstone in thin courses. The interior was found to be constructed with small stones, set in clay for the most part, with little or no bond. The wet had disintegrated the outer facing and in places had caused it to bulge.

The repair of the south wall was begun from the foundation, working from the inside face, in the Society's usual method. The loose walling was removed, in small sections at a time, as far as the back of the outer facing, solidly reconstructed, and the inside face rebuilt with the old stones, supplemented with good bonders of local stone where necessary to tie the walls together. In places the outer face of the wall was bulged and cracked to such an extent as to require rebuilding, but for the most part it was possible to retain it. It was, however, necessary to renew the whole of the inside of the wall up to the sill of the belfry window.

The condition of the west wall was little better than that of the south, and it had to be treated in the same way up to the level of the sill of belfry window. The small window at the ground level appears to be an insertion within the jambs of an early doorway. The oak lintels supporting the wall on the inside were badly decayed, and have been replaced with stone. A concrete lintel has been inserted over the small window at the ground floor level in the south wall, in place of the decayed oak lintels. In the work of repair a small window

was discovered in the chamber above, and this has been opened out and repaired.

The east and north walls were sound with the exception of about six feet under the belfry stage, where wet had penetrated through the sill of the belfry windows. This part was repaired from the inside face.

The walls of the belfry were in a perilous state. The openings in each face seem originally to have been small single-light openings; and the present two-light openings, which have wide splayed jambs on the inside and oak lintels, were probably inserted in the sixteenth or seventeenth century. The wet had come through the parapet above and rotted the oak lintels to such an extent that the wall above was at the point of collapsing, and the openings on the south and west sides had been built up so as to support the wall above. The unsafe walling over all the openings was shored up, and the filling in removed from those on the south and west. To strengthen the structure, the wall where it reduced below the opening has been built up of the full thickness, and the splayed jambs on the inside of the openings built out square; the new masonry being bonded into the solid work adjoining it. An arched concrete lintel has been inserted over each opening, and the inside of the wall rebuilt up to the roof level; the tops of the walls being bonded together with a continuous stone lintel of long stones bedded in cement mortar.

The stone battlements on the top of the tower have been repaired and the stone coping rebbed.

After the completion of the repair of the walls, the whole of the exterior and interior surfaces were repointed with mortar of ground blue lias lime and Severn sand, finished flush with the general surface.

Some of the oak timbers of the roof were decayed owing to the wet having penetrated through the defective stone slates. Such timbers as it was possible to retain have been repaired; and new oak wall plates, tie beams, and centre post have been inserted to replace those which were rotten throughout. The lead gutters and spouts, which were beyond repair, have been replaced by new ones of cast lead, laid with proper falls to the old outlets. The stone slating has been refixed and left sound and weatherproof.

New louvres of English oak have been fixed in the belfry openings; and the windows reglazed with old crown glass, in leaded lights, in place of the "Cathedral" glass with which they were filled.

The ground around the tower, the level of which was about three feet above that of the floor, has been removed to allow of a stone channel being formed around the walls below the floor level; and a retaining wall has been built two feet away from the walls.

The ground storey of the tower, used as a vestry, has been provided with a stone floor laid on concrete, with dry rubbish underneath.

The beams of the first floor have been supported by new corbels of stone, and a new floor of English oak has been laid on the old joists. The beams and floor of the belfry, which were beyond repair, have been renewed

with English oak ; and a new bell frame of English oak has been provided. The smaller of the two old bells was badly cracked. It has been recast and, with two new bells which have been provided, hung on the new bell frame.

At the completion of the work the whole of the interior of the tower received two coats of limewash.

The following repairs were carried out to the chancel. The east wall, which was rebuilt some fifteen years ago, had parted from the north and south walls, owing to insufficient bond. The defective masonry has been cut out from the inside face, and the solid portions of the angles bonded together.

The roof of the chancel is of steep pitch, covered with green slates. It had no tie beam, the rafters being braced together by curved ribs under them ; and, owing to the thrust, the walls were bulging. A new English oak tie beam has been placed across the chancel in about the position of the old rood beam, and bolted to the wall plates on the north and south walls.

The choir and sanctuary floors were found to be raised considerably above their original level, and laid with a modern tessellated tile pavement of many colours ; and, as the building is rather low, this raising was found to be objectionable. The floor has now been lowered to its original level, the choir laid with boards of English oak bedded in mastic on concrete, with dry rubbish underneath, and the sanctuary paved with light and dark Hopton Wood stone. New steps of English oak have been provided to the pulpit.

Upon the completion of the work the Committee received the following letter from the Rector.

BACTON RECTORY, HEREFORD.

November 9th, 1907.

DEAR SIR,

It is with great pleasure that I write to tell you of the very successful and splendid restoration of our church tower, under the care and skill of Mr. Weir, and his assistant, Mr. Rye.

The tower was in a terrible state—now it is strong and firm and safe—stronger indeed than it ever was before.

I cannot tell you how glad I am to have it preserved—instead of being pulled down—as I used to be told it would have to be.

I am greatly indebted to you, and to the members of the Society, for your kind encouragement and help, in sending Mr. Weir to us. Please accept my very grateful thanks, and believe me to be

Yours very faithfully,
(Signed) CHARLES T. BROTHERS.

Barrington Court, Somerset.

The works of repair necessary for the preservation of this beautiful building, which was referred to in the Report for 1906 (pages 9-10), are now being carried out in consultation with the Society, and it is proposed to give an account of them in the next Report.

By the kindness of members and friends of the Society, the sum of £70 1s. 4d., which was originally contributed by them to the fund for the preservation of Crosby Hall, has been handed over to the National Trust towards the cost of the repairs now in progress.

Barrow-on-Trent Church, Derby.

As in many other cases, this building has been surveyed by the Society, at the request of the custodians, and a report furnished to them.

The church consists of the western portion of the original chancel, nave with north and south aisles, south porch and western tower. It appears to have been built in the thirteenth century, with the exception of the south aisle, which was probably built in the fourteenth century, when the clerestory to the nave and the belfry stage to the tower were added.

The walls are of a local sandstone, pointed on the exterior and interior faces, and are in an excellent state of preservation.

The chancel appears to be of only half its original length; the modern east wall being built in line with the old buttresses, which were probably half-way along the chancel walls. The jambs of the east window seem to be sixteenth century work, but its flat elliptical arch is more modern. It has clear glass in leaded lights, secured to two vertical iron stanchions and cross bars. There are no stone mullions or tracery. A bad crack has occurred through the window, displacing the arch; the wall above is also cracked.

In the south wall, close to the east end, is a built-up round-headed doorway; and against the chancel arch there is a three-light square-headed window, the head and mullions of which have been renewed.

In the north wall, near the middle, is a small thirteenth

century doorway with pointed head; and close to the west end, and formed in the splay of the passage leading into the north aisle, there is a small window with a trefoiled head.

The chancel arch, which is wide and pointed, appears to be contemporary with the building. Unfortunately, the masonry has been refaced in modern times. There is, cut through the south abutment of the arch, a curious double squint, looking from the nave and south aisle into the chancel. The thrust of the chancel arch has pushed over the west window in the north aisle.

The chancel roof is flat pitched. It is slightly constructed of deal and covered with cast lead, badly worn and cracked in places. The floor is paved with stone and the fittings are modern. In the north-east angle is a raised tomb with an alabaster slab dated 1665.

The nave retains on the north side the original thirteenth century arcade of three bays of pointed arches, supported on moulded piers, with detached shafts. The westmost one is badly cracked in its height and broken away at the floor level. The detached shafts are missing.

The clerestories have three windows, with remains of traceried heads, partly cut away to allow of oak frames being fixed. The stone mullions are missing in all cases.

The roof of the nave is of deal, as is that of the chancel.

In the north aisle, close to the west end, is a fourteenth.

century doorway; to the east of this are two three-light thirteenth century windows. A similar window occurs in the west wall, and a three-light fourteenth century window in the east wall.

The outer facing of the aisle walls at the ground level is loose and undermined in places by the wet. The aisle roof is modern and is covered with Broseley tiles in bad repair.

The south aisle has in the east wall a fine three-light window, and in the south wall two late seventeenth or eighteenth century windows, with pointed arches, undivided by mullions. There is in the angle against the east window, a built-up fourteenth century piscina; and a little further west a recessed and arched tomb. It contains a stone effigy of a priest. The south doorway, near the west end, is also of the fourteenth century. In the west wall is a window similar to the two in the south wall. The outer facing of the walls at the ground level is loose, owing to the damp soaking in. The roof is flat in pitch and is covered with cast lead. The walls are unplastered and appear to be in fair condition. The floor at the passage is paved with hand-made bricks, and under the seats is boarded with deal.

The porch appears to have been built in the thirteenth century. In each of the side walls is a small two-light window. The outer arch appears to have been inserted about a century later. The east and west walls lean outwards considerably and are badly cracked at their junction with the south wall, which also leans outwards. The outer facing is loose and broken away at the ground

level. The foundation appears to be defective. The roof is constructed with two principals with tie beams, and is covered with hand-made tiles in fair condition.

The tower, up to the belfry stage, was probably built in the thirteenth century, and is in excellent condition. Over the west doorway, which has a pointed arch, is a five-light window with interlacing tracery. The first floor and the belfry are reached by ladders. There are three old bells hung on an oak frame, which, unfortunately, abuts against the walls on all sides. The tenor and second bell are of pre-Reformation date, the treble is dated 1613. Within recent years they have been rehung with new fittings, and quarter turned. In the process the tenor has been mutilated by having the cannons cut off.

The belfry stage appears to have been added in the fourteenth century: it contains a fine two-light opening in each of the four faces. The parapet has been added at a later date. The roof is flat and covered with cast lead in fair condition.

The works necessary for the repair of the building and for properly fitting it for Divine Worship were fully specified in the report which was sent to the Vicar.

The Committee understands that a section of the repairs is now being carried out; but, for fear of misunderstanding, it thinks it right to say that the Society is in no way responsible for the work. Moreover, it is by no means certain that the methods which are being adopted are in accordance with the Society's recommendations.

Bledlow Church, Bucks.

At the request of the Vicar, this church, which appears to have been built in the thirteenth century and which is of great interest, has been surveyed.

It consists of a chancel, nave with north and south aisles, south porch, and western tower. With the exception of the roofs, little alteration to the fabric has taken place.

The walls are well built of flint work, with stone dressings to the angles and openings; and, with the exception of the chancel and tower, which are plastered, all this work is visible. The interior of the chancel walls appears to have been replastered and is treated with colour, dark chocolate below the stone string course at the level of the window sills, and yellow above, stencilled over with modern work.

The windows are extremely beautiful.

The east wall of the chancel is cracked through the three-light window, from the ground upwards; and two other cracks, recently repaired, are apparent on the outside, on either side of the window. The south wall also is cracked over the small modern doorway, in front of which an organ, unfortunately, interferes with the surroundings.

The roof, of flat pitch, is well constructed with good tie beams, purlins and rafters, covered with oak boarding and cast lead in good condition.

The floor is paved with stone. The fittings, of oak,

are modern. The new oak screen across the chancel arch was inserted in 1897. It has a heavy cornice which cuts the line of the arch very awkwardly.

The nave arcade is of four bays with pointed arches resting on circular piers with finely carved caps. The clerestory has three three-light windows, of later insertion.

The original stone weathering over the high pitched roof still exists on the east face of the tower, and reaches to the underside of the belfry window. There is a similar weathering on the east wall of the nave, shewing that the pitch of the chancel roof was a few feet lower than the old roof of the nave.

The present roof of the nave is constructed of oak, and appears to be sound. It is covered with deal boarding and cast lead in fair repair. The lead flashing at the junction of the tower is defective and lets in wet.

The north wall of the nave leans outwards—considerably so at the centre—nevertheless, it shews no signs of cracks. The walls inside retain the old plaster, with portions of what appears to be the original colour decoration.

The boarded floors are raised three inches above the passages, which are paved with stone.

The north aisle retains an older roof than the nave. It is constructed with oak, in fair condition, and is covered with cast lead. The east wall shows signs of damp, and so does the wall at the west end against the tower, apparently due to defective down pipes.

The niche at the east end of this aisle and the two-

light window appear to have been inserted in the position of an earlier window.

The eastmost and westmost windows in the north wall seem to be the original openings; but the middle window was probably inserted a century later. On its west is the north doorway, which has a semicircular head. The walls internally appear to retain their original plaster, portions of which have been renewed. On the wall at the east side of the north doorway are the remains, in a very dilapidated state, of a painting of St. Christopher.

The roof of the south aisle is similar to that of the north and seems to be in fair condition. The window at the east end is built up on the outside, and on the inside has been erected an altar which has a seventeenth century reredos and a painting of interest.

The large four-light eastmost window in the south wall appears to have been inserted in the fourteenth century, and is a fine specimen of the work of the period.

The south porch seems to have been added late in the fourteenth century. The east wall is cracked close to the south angle. The inner doorway is a beautiful and rich example of thirteenth century workmanship, in good condition. The two-light windows on either side of the doorway are similar to the original windows in the north aisle.

There is a small early thirteenth century window in the west wall of the south aisle; and another, somewhat later, in the north aisle. Where the south aisle de-

creases in width, a half-arch is built across it in the form of a flying buttress, as an abutment to the tower arch. A similar half-arch has recently been constructed across the north aisle in like position, and a buttress built against the outside of the wall. The half-arch is continued up through the roof of the aisle in the form of a flying buttress to the north-east angle of the tower.

The aisle on the north of the tower is used as a vestry, and that on the south as a baptistry. To light the latter, a modern two-light window has been inserted at the middle of the wall. The front is opposite this window and is of Norman workmanship, richly sculptured. The west wall is cracked close to the angle.

The roof over the baptistry is modern, of deal, stained and varnished.

On the north, south and east sides, the tower is supported on very fine arches. The west side has a good doorway and two-light window over it, which appear to have been inserted in the fourteenth century. The first floor, reached by a ladder, contains the works of an old clock, which are rather dilapidated. The beams supporting the floor appear to be fairly sound, but the boarding is rotten. To give strength, an additional beam is inserted under the middle of the old beams. Through the walls from north to south and from east to west, and a little above the floor level, are two tie rods, on account of the serious cracks in the north and south walls. There is a small single-light opening in the north, south, and west walls at this level. High

up in the east wall is a built-up doorway which gave access into the upper part of the old high pitched roof.

The belfry contains a peal of five bells, four dated 1683, and the tenor 1847. The bell frame, of oak, is in fair preservation, but unfortunately on the east and south sides it abuts against the walls. The beams supporting the bell frame are in rather bad condition.

A good two-light opening, in fair repair, occurs in each of the four sides of the belfry.

The saddle backed roof is constructed with oak timbers. The wet has been coming in through the cast lead covering, and has affected a portion of the ridge and one of the rafters; the timbers otherwise appear to be sound.

The stone corbel course and parapet on the top of the tower are rather loose.

The walls of the tower at the ground level are about three feet eight inches in thickness. They are built with flintwork, covered with stucco on the outside, which is much dilapidated, and allows the wet to soak into the walls.

The north and south walls are badly cracked through from above the arches to the parapet. These cracks appear to have been caused in the first instance by uneven settlement, and, latterly, from the vibration during the ringing of the bells, owing to the bell frame abutting against the walls. A slight crack, which appears to be of more recent date, is visible in the south-east angle at the first floor level.

The exterior of the building is in fair repair. The

chancel is overgrown with ivy, which appears to have gained a firm hold on the walls and around the openings and buttresses.

A report was forwarded to the Vicar in which the works of repair necessary for the preservation of the building were set forth in detail, and the Committee understands that efforts are being made to raise the funds required for carrying out the Society's recommendations.

Broseley Tiles.

Some years since the Society issued a leaflet on roof coverings, giving a list of good and of bad materials. It stated that "Broseley mechanically-made tiles" were considered to be unsuitable, as they were thin, brittle, and always weathered badly.

The Committee has lately learnt that, as a result of this leaflet, some manufacturers at Broseley are now making hand-made tiles. A sample of these has been received from Messrs. Prestage & Co., of Broseley, and it is noted that the price is the same as that of machine-made tiles. The tile is thoroughly good; and though it has been kept thin, like the machine-made tiles, to lessen cost of carriage, it is not so thin as they are. The Committee, however, considers that a first-class tile should be nearer $\frac{3}{4}$ inch than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in thickness, as it is then less likely to break; moreover the stoutness assists the roof texture.

Bucklebury Church, Berkshire.

Some works of repair to the west window of the tower of this church have been carried out under the auspices of the Society.

The window, which is of three lights, appears to have been inserted over the west doorway about the beginning of the fifteenth century, in place of an earlier window, the stone sill of which seems to have been retained.

The masonry of the jambs and arch was in good preservation, but the mullions and tracery were rather dilapidated. The north mullion was broken away on the outside face by the corrosion of the iron window bars. The south mullion had been replaced with oak. The tracery of the head was loose and displaced. The glazing of the beautiful old clear glass in leaded lights had become very dilapidated and allowed the wet to enter.

The glazing was first carefully removed and the tracery of the head shored up. The oak mullion has been replaced with a stone mullion similar to the existing one, which has been carefully repaired, and the iron crossbars refixed so as not to injure the stonework. The stone tracery has been carefully repaired and the loose joints cleaned out and grouted in with lias lime mortar.

The glazing, after being releaded in a similar manner to the old work, has been refixed and the casements cleaned and painted.

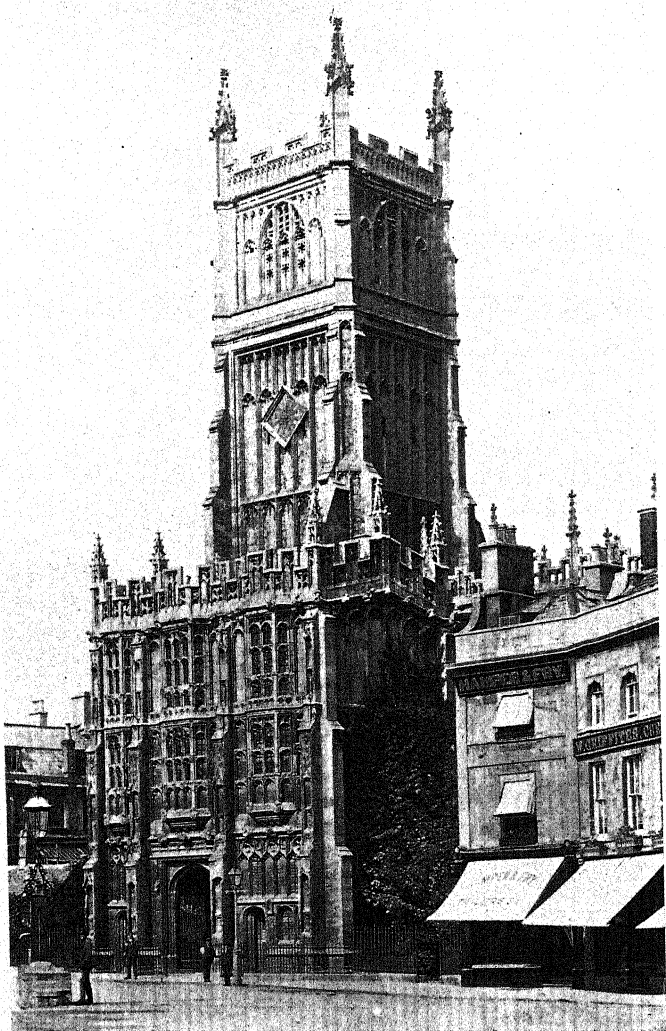


Photo., Taunt & Co.

TOWN HALL, CIRENCESTER.

Town Hall, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

This building, a view of which is given, has been reported on by the Society, and the Committee is anxiously waiting to hear what decision the authorities arrive at.

Donington Church, Lincs.

In compliance with a request received from the Vicar this building was visited.

The church, which is large, appears to have been built about the end of the fourteenth century. It consists of chancel, nave with north and south aisles, and near the west end of the south aisle, a large and lofty tower with a stone spire, about 100 feet high.

The east end of the church, which faces the roadway, suffered considerably, externally and internally, from an extensive "restoration" which took place some forty years ago. The roof of the chancel was renewed and covered with slates, and the north aisle lengthened eastwards to form an organ chamber. The south wall appears to have been robbed of three fine windows (judging from a drawing previous to the "restoration" which the Vicar possesses), which were replaced by two-light windows of a very uninteresting description. Fortunately, the original east window of five lights exists, as also does a small doorway below the middle window in the south wall. The detail of this doorway points to its having belonged to an earlier

building, probably of the beginning of the thirteenth century.

The north and south arcades of the nave seem to have been inserted in the fifteenth century, when the clerestories were added and the west window of the nave inserted above the fourteenth century doorway.

Most of the windows in the aisle belong to the fourteenth century, when the tower and spire appear to have been built.

The roofs of the nave and north aisle appear to be about two centuries old; both are plainly constructed with oak and covered with cast lead, considerably patched in places.

The roof of the south aisle is modern, and is covered with cast lead in good repair.

The fittings and floors throughout the church are modern. The font is situated in the south aisle, on the west side of the entrance doorway. The lower half is of fourteenth century work. The upper half is a poor copy of the original, which is lying in the aisle, broken into several pieces, but well worthy of careful repair and reinstatement.

The tower contains a peal of five bells, hung, crowded together, in an oak bell-frame, which is set diagonally across the belfry and supported on massive oak beams. Unfortunately the bells have been mutilated by having the cannons cut off when rehung, and are strapped up to the stocks with six bolts fixed through the crowns of the bells.

The bell-ringers are anxious to have a sixth bell

added, and the Vicar has been advised to remove the oak frame and substitute an iron frame on which the six bells might be crowded together. An iron frame would be a serious danger to the safety of the tower, as it would transmit the vibration set up in the ringing of the bells to a much greater degree than does an oak frame; moreover, the mellow tone of the bells would be entirely sacrificed.

A sixth bell could be hung in an additional frame above the existing one; but the Committee does not think it would be advisable to add another, as the five are already quite a sufficient strain upon the tower and spire.

The immediate question with which the Society's visit was concerned was the suggested addition of a vestry for the clergy. The present vestry is situated behind the organ and is found inadequate for the use of the clergy and the choir. Three different suggestions had been made for obtaining the accommodation by extending the modern organ chamber, on the north side of the chancel, further eastwards.

The existing extension of the aisle for the organ chamber, as viewed from the roadway which passes close to the east end of the church, is most unfortunate; and the Committee considers any further addition, as suggested, would certainly add to the misfortune proportionately to the extent of the addition.

The accommodation of the church is sufficiently ample for a portion of it, say, at the west end of the south aisle, to be screened off to form a vestry, which could be used

either by the clergy or choir, as found most convenient, in conjunction with the existing vestry behind the organ. This particular space is practically useless for seating accommodation, as it is hidden by the piers of the nave arcade, whereas its situation in relation to the south doorway is a most convenient one for a vestry.

The Vicar, in acknowledging the receipt of the Society's report, stated that he was much indebted for its consideration of the problem, and although he could not say what course might ultimately be taken, if any, the Society's advice would be a large factor in the future consideration of the subject.

Sackville College, East Grinstead.

In accordance with the arrangement mentioned in the last Report (page 26), a detailed description of the repairs necessary for the preservation of this group of buildings has now been made, and also an estimate of the cost which amounts to £620.

This, it was hoped, it would have been possible to get together at the present time ; but a large sum having to be raised locally, owing to the destruction of the Vicarage by fire, it is thought useless to make the attempt just now ; and those interested have decided to defer doing so until a more favourable opportunity.

Mr. E. P. Whitley Hughes, of East Grinstead, has kindly consented to act as Honorary Secretary of the Repair Fund.

Exeter Cathedral.

In the last Report (page 27) it was mentioned that a Sub-Committee had been appointed to visit Exeter and inspect the work which was being done to the West Front of the Cathedral.

The following is the report :

"Visiting Exeter Cathedral on June 19th, 1907, we found no work in progress upon the West Front, but we readily distinguished the additions of new stone-work made lately, since they are executed in a coarse yellow stone. They consist of six canopies (with parts of their supports) inserted in the south wing of the sculpture-screen,—also of the cornice of the same wing, the renewal of the latter being carried round the buttress adjoining. Our report will apply to all this work, but is specially directed to the renewal of the canopies.

"(1) We could discover no reason for these renewals on the ground of their being necessary for the stability of the fabric. For the purpose of giving strength to the structure surface additions such as these projecting canopies are evidently immaterial. If they were entirely chipped or decayed away, neither the stability nor the permanence of the sculpture-screen would be impaired; nor would the statues be less efficiently protected from the weather.

"(2) As to the explanation that these renewals are records of the ancient works, and desirable on that account, we cannot see that they constitute any such record. The ancient canopies were of the finest white stone, admirably sculptured, and with expressions of delicacy and finish that claim for the work the highest place in mediæval masoncraft. But the renewals are carved in a coarse stone, mechanically executed, and with detail ill-conceived and coarsely rendered. To mention only one point—the original canopies were delicately contoured so as not by too much emphasis to

break up the effect of the wall. Those who are acquainted with the practice of sculpture will appreciate the consummate mastery of effect which dictated such details in this sculpture-screen. Though this screen is a most elaborate collection of ornaments, they are nowhere felt to be fulsome or oppressive,—the cohesion and dignity of the wall-surface is preserved throughout. But there is none of this distinction or appropriateness in the renewals—for example, the jutting of the canopies has been so much increased beyond the line of the ancient work that their pendants actually crowd upon the heads of the statues beneath. Such substitutions are, therefore, not records of the ancient work, but in their pretension to be so actually falsify it.

“(3) Being unable to account for these substitutions, as either structurally wanted, or as efficient copies, we can only suppose them to be meant as improvements on this famous piece of ancient sculpture; and we are tempted to ask what artist has been bold enough to venture on such an experiment? We think we can rely on a supposition that no acknowledged master of sculpture has been consulted. Experiments of a very hazardous kind seem to have been undertaken without advice from anyone qualified to give an opinion as to the treatment of ancient sculpture. On the other hand, we notice no attempt to meet the first necessities of a reasonable treatment. The sculpture has been left in a deplorable condition; the statues are fastened up with bits of bent copper wire, and the whole front is thickly encrusted with dirt that hangs in flakes and festoons upon it. In the first place it ought to be washed. A cleaning of the whole, properly conducted, would show where the original stone is still protected by its ancient preservative coating of colour; some of this colour is still visible at the backs of the canopies and elsewhere where the clots of dirt have fallen off. It will probably be found that there is in good condition a much larger part of the original surface than can be at present inspected. But in cases where, after a thorough clean-

ing, the ancient stone is shown to be unprotected and decaying, there proper preservatives should be applied under scientific advice, so that further decay may be arrested. The statues should in any case be secured in their places in the same way as has been done at Wells.

"(4) Since the additions lately made are neither structurally necessary nor correct records of what has been, and since they are manifestly unornamental, there appears no reason for their retention. There remain in the cloister many pieces of the ancient work that has been cut away for the new stone. We find that most of these pieces are sound at the core and indeed little decayed on the surface: they seem to have been wantonly sawn off. The ancient sculpture is still shown by them much more nearly than by the clumsy copies that have been substituted. These latter, therefore, should be removed out of the front, and the old pieces returned to it—a work perfectly easy in competent hands.

"(5) We have in this report spoken as archæologists, as practical architects, and as students and artists in sculpture. On the ground of our knowledge we condemn these additions to the sculpture-screen as incompetent work carried out under incompetent advice. We do not touch upon the wider question which the present aspect of Exeter Cathedral offers. But we may say this—that bit by bit the ancient art of this famous English Cathedral Church is being obliterated. Substitutions of the same kind as those we have seen in the sculpture-screen of the west front have been and are being made on all sides of the church. They cannot be justified on any score of either structural repair, of archæological record, or as ornamental additions. But by such substitutions the honour of the ancient art is being filched away. The west window was before the late alteration to it interesting historically, and it contained some good glass of the greatest artistic value. In the place of this now appears a counterpart of the

ancient work that has value neither as an historic monument, nor as a work of art.

“(Signed) W. B. RICHMOND, R.A., F.S.A.
FREDERICK DULEEP SINGH, F.S.A.
PHILIP NORMAN, F.S.A.
W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE, M.A.
EDWARD S. PRIOR, F.S.A., M.A., F.R.I.B.A.
DETMAR BLOW, F.R.I.B.A.
WILLIAM WEIR.

“2nd July, 1907.”

The report was communicated to the press and published in many newspapers.

It was stated in a local journal that at a meeting of the Dean and Chapter the report was discussed, and that it was decided to take no action in the matter until a more representative meeting of the Chapter could be got together. It was also stated that there was good reason for the belief that “the present feeling of the Cathedral Authorities is that, while they claim to have a complete answer to their critics on every point raised, they would prefer to treat the matter with silent contempt.” It was also mentioned that a further meeting of the Chapter was shortly to be held, and the hope was expressed that, “in vindication of themselves, and also for the credit of the city of which our grand old Cathedral forms such a noble feature, some reply will be formulated by the responsible authorities to the sweeping charges of vandalism brought by the authors of the recently published letter.”

However, so far as the Committee is aware, the Dean and Chapter have not attempted to publicly reply to

the criticisms contained in the report; and it therefore hopes that the method of treating the west front has been re-considered, and that no further works of "restoration" will be attempted.

Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.

In the last Report was published a letter which the Committee had addressed to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, stating that the Society had learnt with much pleasure of the Bishop's action, that it would like to forward the object in view in so far as lay within its power, but that before doing so it would be glad of an assurance that the ruins would be preserved as far as possible in their authentic condition, and that no attempt would be made to bring any portions back into use, as this would involve modernisation and result in a lamentable loss of interest.

In the *Times* of the 22nd of January, 1908, a note appeared with reference to the Abbey, which concluded as follows:

"It should be understood that, so far as the Bishop of Bath and Wells and those acting with him are concerned, there is no intention whatever of restoring or disturbing the ruins of the ancient building; and it is hoped that these will not be less accessible to people in the time to come than they have been through the kindness of the late owner."

Under these circumstances the Committee felt that those who will eventually be the Trustees of these ruins will respect the wishes of the Bishop, and those who are acting with him; and it had much pleasure, with a

view to shewing the Society's goodwill, in forwarding a donation of £5 to the Bishop for the Purchase Fund.

Goodrich Castle, Herefordshire.

It came to the knowledge of the Committee that portions of the ruins of Goodrich Castle, near Ross, were in need of repair and support, and the building was therefore visited and a Report forwarded to the owner.

The particular portion requiring attention is the keep, which stands close to the outer wall on the south side of the courtyard. It appears to be the oldest part of the castle. The walls are strongly built of stone of a conglomerate nature, in good preservation. The internal dimension is about fourteen feet square, and the walls are about seven feet in thickness. The height was originally divided into three chambers, the floors of which no longer exist.

There is, in the west face of the uppermost chamber, a beautiful two-light Norman window with a semi-circular arch over, filled in with a stone tympanum or head, which is supported below the centre on a circular shaft, with moulded cap and base. The stone sill under the base of the shaft has worn away apparently to such an extent as to endanger the safety of the shaft. The stone head below the arch seems also to be cracked, and immediate steps should be taken to strengthen and repair the window. The joints of the stone sill are open and allow the wet to penetrate into the wall underneath, where a rather serious crack

extends from the sill downwards, in a northerly direction, to the head of the doorway of the intermediate or principal chamber.

The corresponding window, in the north side of the tower, has lost the centre shaft and the head. Underneath, the arch is cracked in a similar manner to that on the west face. In the wall below is also a crack, starting on the east side of the window and continuing down to the old doorway, at the first floor level, in which a fourteenth century window is inserted. There is also a fourteenth century doorway in the wall below, at the ground floor level.

The south and east walls are in fair condition, with the exception of several courses of masonry at the top, which are dangerously loose. The tops of the north and west walls are in a similar state and are overgrown with bushes and vegetation.

A full description of the repairs necessary for the preservation of the ruins was given in the Report; and the Committee trusts the owner may see her way to carry out some, if not the whole, of the works recommended.

Hanborough Church, Oxon.

In the last Report (pages 33 and 34) it was mentioned that the three beautiful screens in this church were to be repaired under the supervision of the Society, as soon as the money was forthcoming. It was also stated that the church itself needed structural repair. The Rector is eager for these works to be done; and at his request

a thorough examination of the building has been made, and a detailed report of the works necessary drawn up.

The church consists of a chancel, with a sacristy on the north side; nave, with tower at the west end; and north and south aisles, which extend to the west face of the tower and east of the chancel arch, forming chapels with arches in the north and south walls of the chancel. Both aisles have porches.

Parts of the structure date from the twelfth century, and it would appear that the plan as existing is similar to that of the original building. The aisles appear to have retained their Norman walls. The north aisle has a beautiful Norman doorway with a finely carved tympanum. That in the south aisle is of similar date, but is less elaborate. Small round-headed windows, with widely splayed internal jambs, exist in the west wall of the north aisle, and on the west side of the doorway, and in the east wall of the south aisle.

A century later, the two lancet windows, the Priest's doorway and the arch opening into the chapel in the south wall of the chancel appear to have been inserted, and the north porch built. The archway opening into the north chapel, and the chancel arch seem to have been inserted in the fourteenth century, as also do the two-light window in the sacristy, the three-light window in the north and south chapels, and the two-light window in the north aisle, east of the porch. The greatest alteration appears to have been that which took place in the fifteenth century, when the nave was rebuilt and the clerestory added, and re-roofed to a flat pitch. Probably

also about the same period the chancel was re-roofed, the eastmost and westmost window of the south aisle and the westmost window of the north aisle inserted, and the tower and spire built.

The east window of the chancel, and the window of the south aisle, west of the porch, are both modern. The south porch appears to have been rebuilt, or very much altered, in the seventeenth or eighteenth century.

The very beautiful screens across the chancel and the chapels, as well as the pulpit and the font, are of the middle of the fifteenth century.

The internal wall plaster and the seats and fittings are modern.

The condition of the fabric generally is not seriously defective, but many works are necessary, including the repair of the tower; the reconstruction of the bell-frame and the rehangng of the bells; the repair of cracks in the east wall of the nave over the chancel arch in the west wall of the aisles, the north wall of the north aisle and in the north and south walls of the chancel; the repair and pointing of the exterior of the walls; the general repair of the exterior of the roofs; the reconstruction of the surface channels around the building; and the repair of the glazing of the windows.

It is estimated that the cost of these repairs, together with that of the screens, and of the reseating of the church, would probably amount to £950.

The Committee has had much satisfaction in sending the Rector a letter, recommending the case to those who are interested in the proper repair of our ancient buildings.

Hospital of St. John-the-Baptist, High Wycombe, Bucks.

In the last Report (pages 34-36) it was stated that the repairs necessary for the preservation of these ruins were in progress, and a short description of the works, so far as they had gone, was given. All have now been completed.

The northmost arch of the west arcade of the Hall, which had fallen, has been carefully re-erected and rebonded to the southmost bay and to the wall at the north end. To withstand its thrust, a substantial buttress has been built against the north end of the west arcade.

The southmost bay has been carefully strengthened and repaired, and its piers underpinned, after clearing away the ground which had accumulated around them. The brick buttress on the west side of the middle pier also has been repaired and strengthened. A continuous bond of concrete and tiles, similar to that described in the last Report as having been put on the east wall, has been constructed on the top of the wall. The old decayed coats of limewash with which the clunch was covered, have been carefully removed, bringing to light the beautiful carving of the caps, in excellent condition.

The wall at the north end which connected the two arcades has been repaired and strengthened, and the top surface faced with flints bedded in cement and sand, slightly round on the surface, to withstand the weather. The old brick oven near the west angle, which appears

to be contemporary with the building, is curiously constructed, with an arched top of thin tiles.

The old iron tie-rods from the centre pier to the eastmost pier, which were fixed with iron bands round the springers of the arches, have been removed, and the tie-rods lengthened and anchored through the walls. To prevent corrosion they have been coated with gas tar and bedded in asphalte. Additional cross ties from east to west have been inserted through the walls at the springing of the arches over the centre and southmost piers.

The existing portion of the aisle wall on the east, which is about six feet six inches high above the floor, has been repaired and strengthened, and backed with cement concrete against the ground outside, which is level with the top of the wall. All the shrubs and trees which were growing close to this wall have been removed.

The existing portion of the north wall of the chapel has been carefully repaired, and the two windows securely strengthened. The top of the wall has been refaced with flints, as described above. The bushes and trees which grew around have been cleared away, and the ground levelled and sloped to allow the surface water to get freely away.

All the walls have been pointed with mortar of blue lias lime and Thames sand, finished flush with the general surface. The masonry of the arches and piers, which is of clunch, has been treated with several applications of baryta water in order to harden and preserve it from decay.

Honeychurch Church, Devonshire.

This church is of rare interest and beauty, for it has, with slight exceptions, entirely escaped "restoration" and remains practically an authentic building.

Consequent upon correspondence with the Patron of the Living, and the Rector-Designate, the church was surveyed.

The fabric consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and south porch.

Of the tower, the walls are in good condition, but in places need pointing. The roof is slated and requires repair.

The bells are uncracked, but parts of the fittings should be repaired and parts renewed; and the bell-cage, which is of oak, should be strengthened with iron straps.

The nave is ceiled with a plain barrel, divided into squares, by carved oak ribs, with bosses at the intersections. It is in good internal repair, but at the north-west corner, against the tower wall, wet has entered. The roofs both of the nave and the chancel, however, should be thoroughly overhauled and repaired where necessary.

Repairs to the south pier of the chancel arch are also requisite.

The font is of very early date.

The seats are pre-Reformation, very interesting, and quite unrestored. They require very careful repair.

There is, in one of the windows on the north side of the nave, some beautiful mediæval glass.

The walls of the chancel have been roughcasted externally, and show cracks. These should be repaired and patched.

There are two twelfth century corbel heads which are in their wrong positions, and unsafe. They should be built into the chancel wall and left as records (with the font) of the earliest work of the church.

Interesting paintings of Elizabethan and later dates have been discovered on the north wall of the nave. Unfortunately one has been painted on the top of the other, so that they will have to be very carefully dealt with, and, it is thought that if possible, typical specimens of both paintings should be exposed and preserved.

The Rector-Designate, in acknowledging the receipt of the report, stated that matters with regard to his appointment to the Living were unsettled; but that when arrangements had been made as to this he would communicate again, and, in the meantime, would study the various points mentioned in the report. The Committee hopes therefore that eventually it will be decided to repair the building in accordance with the Society's recommendations.

"The Smugglers' Retreat," Hythe, Kent.

In spite of the efforts made by the Society for the Preservation of the Beauty of Hythe, and by this Society, the picturesque building known as "The Smugglers' Retreat," in the High Street of Hythe, has been destroyed.

In reply to a communication, the owners of the property stated that they had no desire to demolish the building, but that the local Town Council had demanded such repairs and sanitary works as to make it necessary to do so, and that they were under promise to the Council to pull down and rebuild. Further, that plans for a new building were almost completed.

At the request of the local Society, a public meeting was called by the Mayor, which the Rev. Gerald Davies kindly attended on behalf of this Society. As a result, a small committee was formed; and at its request "The Smugglers' Retreat" was surveyed by the Society and a detailed report provided, setting forth the works necessary for the repair of the building, and for making it sanitary.

However, the owners of the property came to the conclusion that it would be more to their financial interest to entirely rebuild; and thus has Hythe lost one of its most characteristic features.

Little Hampden Church, Bucks.

The work of uncovering the wall paintings on the walls of the nave of this building, referred to in the last Report (pages 52-53), has been completed.

On the north wall, west of the doorway, which seems to be of later date than the original fabric, was uncovered a tall figure painted in red line on the old yellow plaster, probably in the thirteenth century. It appears to represent Christ holding in the right hand, a staff, with a cross; at the feet are three fish. The

figure is draped with a loose cloak reaching to the knees, hung from the shoulders, and caught up under the right arm. Under the cloak a sleeved tunic of red is exposed at the neck, knees and arms.

Immediately east of the doorway, on the lower part of the wall, is a painting on the old yellow plaster, in red line, of the head and shoulders of two figures, facing one another. Between them are two posts supporting two keys and a sword, from which it would appear that the figures represent St. Peter and St. Paul.

A little further east are the remaining portions of two heraldic lions, in red outline on the old yellow plaster. On the upper portion of the wall, and around the doorway, the plaster is white, possibly renewed in the fourteenth century. Directly above the doorway are the head and hands of a female figure, apparently holding something.

A little further east, on the white plaster, appear the bearded head and arms of St. Christopher. The right hand grasps a yellow staff, and the left arm supports the infant Saviour, of which only the head and arms remain. The subject must have taken up the whole height of the wall from the floor to the roof, covering the earlier figures of St. Peter and St. Paul. The figure over the doorway was probably the Nun holding the lantern.

During the process of removing the several coats of limewash it was discovered that this painting had been covered over, probably in the fifteenth century, by another painting, of which the red border and several stars were found.

The upper portions of the north and the south walls at the east end are ornamented with fifteenth century decoration, which continued across the east wall above the rood loft. Patches of modern plaster on the north and south walls indicate where the ends of the rood beams rested. The wall below the position of the rood loft shows traces of similar decoration. Much of this later ornament was in poor condition and has been removed to expose the thirteenth century painting underneath. The work consists of a series of niches containing figures, with a band of foliage above and below, painted on the old yellow plaster. The chancel arch is evidently a later insertion, as it cuts into the niches, and the plaster immediately around it is similar to the white plaster on the upper portion of the south wall.

The south wall appears to have been replastered in the fourteenth century. Of the earlier yellow plaster there remains only a small patch at the east end, and the jambs of the old doorway at the west end, now converted into a window.

The plaster surrounding the jambs and arch of the eastmost window appears to have been renewed in the eighteenth century, when the present brick mullion and head were inserted. The name of the Churchwarden, William Wright, and the date 1762 is painted on the plaster above the arch.

The subject over the archway of the original south doorway appears to be the weighing of the good and of the evil souls. The central figure is a saint, holding in her

left hand a balance, on one end of which stands a devil, while another who squats below may have been suspended from it by a rope. At the other end is a sort of basket presided over by a saint, of whom the head and arms alone remain. In the basket are twelve faces, in outline, symbolical of the good souls.

Further east is the figure of a man holding a bow and arrow and driving down some small figures underneath. The subject appears to be the devil presiding over the lower regions. With this last subject are mixed up portions of a fifteenth century painting of St. Christopher crossing the stream. It would appear that when the painting of St. Christopher on the opposite wall perished, another, in the fifteenth century, was painted on the south wall, over the last subject described.

Still further east are painted grotesque faces, which may be connected with the figure holding a bow and arrow.

Below the window in the west wall are portions of a painting, the subject of which is not evident.

The removal of the numerous coats of limewash was a work of considerable time and patience. The paintings have been treated with a solution of refined size applied hot with a spray diffuser.

In addition to uncovering the wall paintings, the plaster on the interior of the nave has been repaired and—where there are no paintings—limewashed. The cracks in the east wall, over the chancel arch, have been repaired from the chancel side, by cutting out the loose walling and bonding together the solid portions.

The masonry of the chancel arch has been repaired and repointed.

The plaster and flintwork on the exterior of the building, where loose and decayed, have been repaired.

The porch, with the belfry over, is constructed with timber plastered in between. The plaster has been limewashed on the exterior surface so as to protect it from the weather.

The works have been carried out in accordance with the Society's usual method, under the personal direction of the architect on the building.

Bridge, Llanrwst.

This interesting bridge which crosses the river Conway at Llanrwst, is reputed to have been built in 1636 by Sir Richard Wynn, then the occupant of Gwydir Castle, from the designs of Inigo Jones.

The Committee was informed that the bridge was being injured by traction trains, carrying unlimited weights, being allowed to pass over it; and, after enquiries, it decided to address letters upon the subject to the Chairman of the County Councils of Carmarthen and Denbigh. It was pointed out that the traction trains, if continued under present conditions, must eventually destroy the bridge, a portion having already been shattered by one of them, and an earnest appeal was made that steps should be taken to prevent further damage.

It affords the Committee great satisfaction to report

that the County Councils have decided to take action to protect the bridge.

London, Crosby Hall, E.C.

It is with deep regret that the Committee has to record the failure of the efforts which were made to bring about the preservation of this building, in which so many members of the Society took such a keen interest.

It is lamentable to think that, in spite of the sum of £50,000 having been subscribed, the building should have been destroyed.

The Committee is glad to learn that the fabric is likely to be re-erected, although it feels that any ancient building which has been removed from its original site, and set up elsewhere must, of necessity, lose a considerable portion of its interest.

It is deeply grateful to those members who subscribed to the Preservation Fund, through the Society, and to those also who have very kindly permitted their donations to be transferred to the Fund which is being raised by the National Trust for the preservation of Barrington Court, Somerset.

*London, Sir Robert Geffery's Almshouses, Kingsland Road,
Shoreditch.*

These beautiful Almshouses in the Kingsland Road, Shoreditch, stand in a garden about an acre in extent.

They were founded in the early part of the eighteenth century, under the will of Sir Robert Geffery. Beneath one long high-pitched roof are fourteen single-storied houses, with a chapel in the centre. Each house contains four rooms.

The Trustees of the Charity are the Ironmongers Company, and the Almshouses have been carefully maintained by them. Moreover, they have assisted the Charity from time to time out of their general funds, although the Charity itself is well endowed, and at the present time its revenues are actually improving.

An application was recently made to the Charity Commissioners by the Company for permission to sell the site and to build new Almshouses in the suburbs, mainly on the grounds that the district is no longer a suitable locality.

This Society joined with the National Trust and the Metropolitan Public Gardens Associations in a memorial to the Charity Commissioners in opposition to the scheme. As a result the Commissioners ordered a public inquiry, which was held by Mr. G. S. D. Murray, an Assistant Commissioner. The three Societies were there represented by Counsel, and much evidence was called in support of the opposition.

The Committee is glad to be able to state that, after considering the Assistant Commissioner's Report, the Charity Commissioners have decided to withhold their consent to the proposed removal.

In a letter conveying their decision to the Ironmongers Company, the Commissioners stated that although the

existing site has some disadvantages, the Almshouses are not unsuitable for their purpose, and therefore the Charity in its present condition is capable of fulfilling the object for which it was established.

The following clause in the Commissioners' letter is, the Committee considers, of great importance as showing that they feel themselves justified in taking into consideration the views which the Societies represent.

"In the circumstances it appears to the Commissioners that in exercising their discretion to grant or refuse their sanction to the sale of the site and buildings of the Almshouses they are not precluded from taking into consideration the question of public policy which has been indicated by Parliament in regard to the desirability of retaining open spaces in the metropolis and of preserving ancient buildings."

The Old Palace, Maidstone.

At the request of the Town Council this building was surveyed by the Society.

The Old Palace stands on the east side of the river Medway, adjoining the Parish Church. It was originally the residence of the Rector of Maidstone, but was given up, in the thirteenth century, as a residence for the Archbishop. The oldest portion of the existing building appears to be at the north end, where some fifteenth century windows remain.

The main front, facing the east, is said to have been brought from the Palace at Wrotham, in the neighbourhood. There is in the middle a projecting porch, which

has no direct communication with the interior, but is flanked on the north and on the south with stone steps giving access to the first floor through entrance porches at the level of first floor.

Some of the rooms have good old panelling and open stone fireplaces of fifteenth century date. There is a fine old oak staircase at the north end.

The walls are faced with ashlar, which is much decayed. A few years ago the upper portion of the central porch was rebuilt, and two stone dormer windows constructed.

The roof is of a fairly steep pitch, covered with hand-made tiles, and is strongly framed of oak. The chimney stacks are of brick; and although some are old, for the most part they appear to have been rebuilt from time to time.

The west front, that towards the river, is faced with coursed rubble walling, which is decayed on the surface. Most of the windows are large and many retain their moulded jambs, into which are inserted sash frames of late date. The stone sills are decayed and allow the wet to soak into the walls.

The lower buildings, at the south end, appear to be of much later date than the main building, and are in fair condition.

The older buildings, at the west end, which are unoccupied, are beginning to fall into decay. The end wall is bulged and cracked in places, and several of the window openings are dilapidated.

Ivy is growing unchecked over the whole building,

and, as in many similar cases, is doing much injury to the walls. The main stems are very large and have grown around and disturbed the facing stones.

Internally the building appears to be in good condition.

In its report to the Town Council, the Society gave a detailed description of the works necessary for preservation, and these are estimated to cost, approximately, £700.

The question is now receiving the attention of the Town Council.

St. Margaret's Church, Marton, Lincolnshire.

Reference to this church was made in the last Report (pages 55-56). The tower has been thoroughly repaired—and other works of reparation executed—under the personal direction of the architect in consultation with the Society.

On excavating to ascertain the nature of the foundation it was found that the walls, which at the ground level are three feet six inches thick, terminated about two feet below it. They did not, however, rest upon the natural ground, but upon an artificial foundation of pebbles and sand, loosely filled-in in a trench about five feet deep extending down to the top of the natural substratum of sand. Under the weight of the superstructure this filling had gradually compressed, and the subsidence being uneven the walls had cracked. A further source of trouble was the excavation—about thirty-nine years ago—of a heating chamber, under the north

wall, which appears to have caused fresh movement, and to have seriously imperilled the stability of the tower. The chamber has been removed, and the whole of the walls underpinned in brickwork in cement mortar down to a new foundation of concrete resting upon the solid sandy substratum.

Owing to the unstable nature of the pebbles and sand of the old artificial foundation, this underpinning presented considerable difficulty.

The walls below ground are constructed of thin layers of stone bedded longitudinally in lime mortar. Above ground, however, they are built in courses of thin stones laid on edge, in mortar, at an angle of about forty-five degrees, each course leaning the opposite way to that above or below, the appearance on the face being similar to the bones of a herring. On the removal of the modern plaster from the exterior of the tower, portions of the walling were found to differ from the typical herring-bone work by the inclined courses being separated by bands, each formed of two courses of stone laid horizontally, adding considerably to the strength of the work. It is because of these horizontal courses chiefly that the tower is considered to have been built during the first half of the eleventh century.

After a scaffolding had been erected round the outside of the tower, free of the walls, to avoid interference with the old work, the repair of the superstructure was proceeded with. The quoins of the west angle were loose and bulged away from the walls. They were replaced, and, where crushed beyond repair, were renewed with

stone from Kniveton Park Quarry, which is similar to the old. Extensive cracks in all four walls were treated from the inside face by rebonding together the masonry with new stones. Further, to assist the imperfect bond of the herring-bone work, a continuous bond course of stone and cement concrete was inserted in the thickness of the wall, at the first floor level.

A modern two-light window, which disfigured the west of the tower near the ground level, was found to be inserted within the jambs and arch of a fifteenth century window, and these it was found possible to expose by removing the modern work and filling in part of the old window to strengthen it, so forming a small window to give light to the ground floor.

In repairing the east wall at the first floor level, the original doorway to the nave roof was discovered. In order to strengthen the wall it has been built up; but the filling-in has been set back six inches on both faces so that the form of the opening may be seen.

The walls of the belfry stage appear to be later in date than the lower part of the tower, the stones being laid in horizontal courses instead of herring-bone-wise. They were honeycombed with putlog holes. The arches over the two-light openings on each face of the belfry were in bad condition, and several of the stones were missing. They, and the stone sills, have been repaired, the putlog holes filled up, and the walls pointed on the inside face.

The fifteenth century parapet round the top of the tower has been repaired.

The general walling was covered with modern plaster, in a dilapidated condition. It was evident from the state of the stones, wherever exposed, that they were unfit to withstand the weather. So the surfaces were covered with a thin coat of blue lias lime and Trent sand, following their irregularities and finishing against the angle quoins.

It was possible, however, without incurring any risk to the work, to leave exposed to view the herring-bone work in the inside of the tower.

The ground floor of the tower has been repaved with stone and brick on a bed of concrete, with hard core under it.

The walls of the nave were found to be built of herring-bone work like that of the tower, and probably contemporary with it. The arcade on the north side is of two bays of semi-circular arches supported on a middle pier, which, with the responds, has finely carved caps of late Norman work. The south arcade is slightly later in date.

A stone on which was carved a small crucifix, was brought to light in the north wall of the chapel at the east end of the aisle, where it had been used to block up a small lancet window. It is of early workmanship, probably Saxon, and with the exception of the head, which is defaced, is in good preservation. It has now been fixed on the east wall of the Sanctuary, close to the north angle, as its former position was hidden by the organ.

In the chancel the following works were done to make

the roof and walls weatherproof. The lead gutters behind the parapets were taken up and reconstructed to proper falls and the sound lead relaid, new cast lead being provided where necessary. The walls were thoroughly repaired, and the loose plaster, both on the outside and inside, taken down and replaced with new of blue lias lime and Trent sand. It was found that the western half of the walls were of herring-bone work, probably contemporary with the nave and tower: the eastern half, being of ordinary walling, was no doubt added at a later period, to increase the length. In this latter, on the north side, was found an archway, springing from a pier with a moulded cap.

At completion, the interior plaster was limewashed throughout.

The rainwater heads and rainwater pipes were repaired, and the drains put in order.

During the excavations for the underpinning of the tower, an interesting find was made of a burial paten and the stem of the chalice. They were unearched, from among human remains in an old grave against the south wall, about four feet below the surface. No trace of the bowl of the chalice was found. The paten is almost perfect: it appears to be of lead or pewter, and is probably of the thirteenth century.

The head of an old stone coffin was found built into the south-west angle, near the ground, as a quoin stone; and under it was another stone, about six inches thick, with a cross cut on the front and back.

Old Priest's House, Muchelney, Somerset.

The fourteenth or fifteenth century Priest's House at Muchelney, now used as the Glebe House, is, owing to the care with which it has been preserved in its original form, a unique building of its class. It is arranged on the usual plan, with opposite doors, hall, solar, etc. It has a wide entrance passage, with north and south entrance doors with moulded pointed arches. On one side of the passage there is a living room, with two bedrooms over, used as a labourer's cottage. On the opposite side there is a school-room and sitting-room, used as store-rooms. The house is surrounded by a walled garden.

The Committee learnt that the building was in urgent need of repair; and, as a result of correspondence with the Vicar, he was furnished with a report.

It is estimated that for a sum of less than £100 the building could be put into a state of repair; and the Committee trusts that those interested may see their way to carry out the works recommended.

Ancient buildings such as this are becoming more and more rare; and it is of great importance that those which still remain should be preserved.

The Guildhall, Norwich.

This building is probably well known to many mem-

bers of the Society. Alarming reports as to its structural condition appeared in the public press; and in some quarters it was suggested that it should be removed and a new Guildhall erected.

The Committee communicated with the Mayor, and offered to survey the building and furnish a report; and this offer was accepted by the City Council.

The earliest portion of the Guildhall appears to be the Crypt under the east end, which is vaulted in brickwork. It dates probably from the thirteenth century. The main building above the street level seems to have been erected in the fifteenth century. The walls which are three feet thick, are built and faced with uncut flints, the east end is enriched with diaper work, in chequers of stone and knapped flint. In places the general facing has been patched with squared and knapped flints.

On the south side, buildings have been added within the last century.

The clock turret at the east end was erected in 1850 at the cost of the then Mayor, conditionally upon the roof of the council chamber being repaired. This was evidently done; the old principals being retained, and a new flat, covered with cast lead, constructed over them.

The roof over the main or western portion of the building appears to have retained its original tie beams. They are about fifteen inches square, and have a good camber. Though of oak, they have proved to be not strong enough for the span, some twenty-eight feet, and in places have broken and sunk. Some time ago

additional cross bearers, with wall brackets, were placed under them; and these to a certain degree arrested the deflection.

There is no sign of any settlement in the foundations: the walls are virtually upright, and there is no indication of any movement having occurred within recent years. There are, near the angles of the east wall of the council chamber and of the committee room, underneath, some vertical cracks; but these, in all probability, are due to the thrust of the roof acting on the north and south walls. Similar cracks exist in the west wall of the Magistrates' Court, which appears to have formed the west end of the original building, the part which extends some fourteen feet further west having been added at a later period. In this, no traces of further cracks could be found.

The City Engineer has put up four good shores against the east end, and two against the south wall at the west end of the modern buildings. A scaffolding has been erected on the north side of the main building where a portion of the angle thought to be dangerous has been taken down for reconstruction.

The walling exposed by this was found to be well and solidly built with good lime mortar. The City Engineer stated that the masonry which had been taken down was loose, the mortar having decayed, and that the work was discontinued as soon as the sound work was reached. This defective masonry is possibly due to some local cause, and judging from the soundness of the adjoining work there is every reason to think that the

walls generally are in nowise so serious a condition as was apprehended.

The mortar of the facing work and of the diapering is in places so defective that the weather finds its way behind the flint facing and forces it outwards; and this, the Committee trusts, will prove to be the most serious defect that the City Council will have to deal with as regards the walling. Of the stonework, several of the internal arches over the window openings in the north wall are cracked and distorted. The modern windows in the west wall have square heads formed of small stones; they are supported only by the wood frames of the sash windows, and in consequence have sunk. The north and the south angles are ornamented with stone quoins in the form of buttressed shafts, which have very little bond into the walls. Both angles are slightly bulged. The three recessed panels under the window of the Council Chamber are in bad condition. In the side panels the stone figures are much decayed, and in the centre panel nothing remains. The stone sill is not only considerably decayed but is split vertically in its length, which allows the wet to penetrate into the wall below.

The roof over the council chamber in the east portion of the building appears to be sound, and although its construction is such as to exert little thrust, the cracks in the east wall have every appearance of having been caused by it. Apart from the question of thrust, it is thought that there is great need for strengthening the walls to enable them to withstand the vibration set up

by the electric cars, which pass close to the north side of the building. This vibration can be distinctly felt in the north wall, both at the level of the street and at that of the parapet.

The roof over the main building requires careful treatment to strengthen it. At present the brackets inserted under the tie-beams rest on set-offs on the inside of the walls and exert a direct thrust against them.

The structure of the Guildhall has been impaired by alterations which have been made from time to time without regard to its stability; and it is essential that the defects due to this should be rectified.

The report contained a description of the works which the Society considers necessary for the repair of the building. It is estimated that they would cost from £1,500 to £2,000.

The City Council obtained reports also from other quarters; and finally decided to refer the question of repairs to the City Committee, for the execution of the work by the corporation employees under the direction of the City Engineer.

It affords satisfaction to the Committee to know at least the Guildhall is not to be demolished.

Parracombe Old Church, Devonshire.

The ancient church at Parracombe is a genuine example of an English Parish Church unfalsified by "Restoration."

The case is interesting too, from the fact that the

late Rector, rather than interfere with the old church, built a new one on another site. Also he repaired the ancient building.

Unfortunately, however, the church was recently struck by lightning, which did considerable damage.

The Committee gladly acceded to the Rector's request that the Society should survey the building. A report has been sent to him, and the Repair Committee are now trying to raise the amount, about £200, required for the repairs. A letter recommending the case has been forwarded by the Society.

The building consists of a tower, nave, chancel, and a south aisle, which is only a few feet short of the length of the nave and chancel.

The arcade between the nave and aisle is of three bays. Between the chancel and aisle there is a fourth bay which has been walled up, leaving a round-headed opening against the eastern respond of the arcade.

There is a south porch opening into the aisle, opposite the second bay of the arcade from the west. On the north side of the chancel a vestry has been added.

The tower, which appears to be partly thirteenth century work, measures about ten feet square inside and about eighteen feet square outside. Apparently the buttresses on the two western angles are later additions. An original buttress remains on the north side against the tower arch. The opening on the south side of the tower has a pointed arch inside and a round arch outside. The inner portion of the arch is built with broad flat stones not radiating from a centre—the outside

portion of the arch is fitted with small dressed stones, two forming the arch and two or three more the jambs—and this has been dry walled up. Built into the south-west buttress is a stone on which is carved a quatrefoil and foliated panel. It looks like the base of a cross that has been built against a wall, as the pattern repeats on the north side of the buttress.

The tower walls diminish in thickness by about twelve inches at the ringing floor, and again at the bell-cage floor.

The bells have been removed to the new church.

There are, preserved by the Rector, some half-dozen fragments of pre-Reformation carved bench-ends, which were in use as props, etc., and had been sawn into lengths suitable for that purpose. They are of great beauty and interest. These old seats were probably done away with when the eighteenth century box pews were made. These are well made, and have raised panels. The date on them is 1732.

At the west end of the nave are raised tiers of seats, and here used to sit the choir and the band. There still remains the fiddler's seat, with a raised rest for the feet and an opening in the back of the next seat for the bow to go forward.

Over the screen between the nave and chancel the archway has been filled in with boarding on which is painted the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, etc., and in the centre the royal arms. It is said that there is no other "tympanum" of this kind in Devon.

The nave is ceiled by a plain barrel plastered vault,

divided by oak ribs, with bosses, into twenty-eight squares. The ribs are painted blue; the bosses also are painted, some with white stars on a red ground and some with foliage.

The chancel screen is finely traceried.

The chancel has a plain white barrel ceiling, and the back of the "tympanum" is plastered down to the top of the screen.

Full details of the damage done to the church by lightning, and from other causes, were given in the report prepared by the Society, together with a full description of the works necessary to put the building into a proper state of repair.

It will be gathered from the short description of the building given above, that this old church is well worthy of preservation; and the Committee trusts the sum of money required for this purpose will be forthcoming.

Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.

The Report for 1903 (pages 35-38) contains an account of this charming building. Since that date the Vicar has been making efforts to raise the funds required for the works recommended by the Society, but only a portion of the sum needed has, so far, been forthcoming. However, at the request of the Vicar, the money received is now being expended under the auspices of the Society; and the Committee proposes to give a description of the works which it is found possible to undertake in the next Report.

Rievaulx Abbey, Yorkshire.

The Earl of Feversham, the owner, accepted the Society's offer of a report upon the building. The chief consideration was the state of the walls of the south transept. At the time of the report the condition was as follows:—

The buildings which originally abutted against the transept on the south no longer exist; and, deprived of this support, the south wall has suffered disturbance from the thrust of the east arcade of the transept. This wall has been weakened too by the insertion of a circular staircase, the spiral steps of which are now missing. In the upper part are three lancet windows, terminating at the base of the gable, which from the ground is sixty-two feet high. Below is a doorway. At the north angle the wall leans outward about eighteen inches; there is a bad crack over the westmost lancet—the facing being displaced—and another from the sill to the top of the doorway. The middle of the gable bulges outward. The thin part of the wall behind the staircase is cracked, and disturbed from the ground upwards. Part of the circular space on the west side is built up; a rough arch is thrown across near the head of the staircase, and the space above built up flush with the face of the wall.

The west wall is, as regards its height, complete; but of the original three bays, two only exist, the wall being broken off about the middle of the northmost. The bays are separated by flat buttresses. Each has a

single-light window at the nave arcade level, another in the triforium and a third in the clerestory. The two lower are round-headed; that at the top, which is close to the eaves, has a pointed head. The southmost bay, next the angle of the transept, is pierced by a round-headed archway, the full width of the bay, which was originally used as a book closet. The wall over this has extensive cracks, and the window arches are badly disturbed. The middle bay also is cracked.

The east wall is pierced by an arcade of three bays, which appears to be sound. Each bay of the triforium has two arches; the clerestory three, the middle one pierced to form a window. The wall is cracked at the south angle, above the arches of the arcade and of the triforium, and over the arch of the north-most bay of the arcade. The masonry over the arcade of the clerestory appears to be loose. There is at the level of the clerestory an iron tie from the face of the south wall to the middle of the centre bay of the east wall, through the passage in the thickness of the wall.

The tops of the walls are overgrown with vegetation, and the masonry appears to be very loose.

At the time of the Society's visit the steps which were being taken to repair the damage were as follows:

In the west wall, the archway at the southmost bay had been walled up with masonry of about half its thickness, finishing flush with the inside face, and having on the outside an engaged pier. The south-west angle had been buttressed to the height of the archway with a solid lump of masonry, weathered back

to the angle, on the south and west faces. It was understood that the foundation of this buttress is of cement concrete, resting on the rock about fourteen feet below the transept floor, and eighteen inches below the bottom of the old walls. It was stated that the ground under the walls is not solid, and that this is causing the building to settle. The concrete foundations in the buttress had been inserted under the old foundations to a distance of eighteen inches from the outside face.

The two cracks in the west wall had been pointed up on the inside and outside faces, and grouted in with cement and sand in the proportions of one and two.

It is a matter of regret to the Committee that the work which is being done is, in its opinion, quite inadequate to meet the necessities. The walls, which are five feet thick, are of unsquared stones without much bond, and in the vicinity of the cracks the masonry is loose and disintegrated. The grout which is being poured into the cracks may possibly penetrate and fill it up, but it certainly will not reunite the solid portions on either side. It is more likely to assume the form of a wedge, which, in the event of any further movement, will tend to force the masonry further apart. Moreover, the proportions of cement and sand should never exceed one to four respectively, on account of the expansion and contraction of the cement in the process of setting.

The proper remedy would be to cut out the loose masonry on either side of the crack, from the inside face of the wall to the back of the outer facing, in short

heights at a time, and to soundly rebond together with new stone the parts which are solid. Beyond pointing up the crack, the exterior face would not need to be interfered with.

The cracks in the north and east walls should be dealt with similarly. Where the lower portion of the south wall is thinned by the circular staircase, it should be strengthened by a horizontal bond-course of masonry, the full thickness of the wall, about ten feet above the ground, well tailed into the solid wall on each side. A similar bond-course is necessary instead of the rough arch supporting the new walling at the top of the recess. By this, the walls would be well bonded together and strengthened sufficiently to withstand the thrust of the arcade.

Instead of the new buttress at the south-west angle, the Committee would have preferred the building up of the archway in the west wall, so as to have taken up any thrust from the arch, which, on the outer angle, is still active.

The vegetation on the tops of the walls should be removed, and the loose walling rebbed in lias lime mortar. The top surfaces should be levelled up with cement concrete, to prevent the wet penetrating into the walls, as also should the sloping sills of the windows where rough and unprotected with ashlar facing, and the flat surfaces at the level of the triforium and of the clerestory.

With regard to the foundations, it is necessary to dig down on the inside face of the south wall

examine the nature of the ground on which they rest. In the event of its being found to be soft and unfit to withstand the weight of the superstructure, the walls would have to be underpinned upon a solid substratum.

A copy of the report was sent to the Earl of Feversham.

The Master's House, The Grammar School, Risley, Derby.

This building was visited at the request of the Trustees of the Grammar School.

The house, which is dated 1706, abuts on the roadway. It is a rectangular building, about thirty-six feet six inches in width by thirty-four feet in depth. The walls are built of hand-made bricks, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches thick; the angles and openings have stone dressings. On the ground floor the walls are fourteen inches thick, but at the first floor they increase to eighteen inches, the extra thickness being apparently carried on the top of the plaster floor. The roof space is utilised as bedrooms, lighted by two dormer windows in the east and west sides.

The roof, which overhangs the walls on a deep stone cornice, is in the form of a truncated pyramid; the flat is covered with cast lead.

The two brick chimneys are carried well up above the roof and finished with a projecting stone cornice.

The ground floor is raised about three feet six inches above the ground; under it are cellars lighted by windows in the east and west walls. At the back these cellars are vaulted with brick, but those at the front

have over them only the boarded floor, ceiled with plaster. The entrance to the cellars is at the back of the house, by a doorway near the east angle. They appear to be very damp and unfit for use, owing to a small stream which passes close to the east side of the house, the level of which is apparently above that of the floor.

On the north is a later addition, containing the kitchen and offices.

The original entrance is in the middle of the south front, and has semi-circular steps leading up to the doorway. The doorway is built up, and the original passage thrown into the front rooms, and divided by a partition, which bisects the doorway. A new entrance is formed in the west side of the house.

Most of the windows retain their original oak frames, divided into fifteen panes. A few on the west side have been replaced by new ones, of deal painted.

The walls, generally, are sound, but the stone lintels over the windows show signs of settlement, and appear to be bearing on the window-frames. The brickwork is cracked vertically over each jamb. The brick facing of the walls, near the ground level, is in places decayed. On the south-front the facing to the first floor is of rubbed brickwork, set with very fine joints. A stone shield showing a coat of arms, which is over the entrance door, is decaying on the surface, and appears to be insecurely fixed.

The roof is stoutly constructed with oak timbers, well framed together. The principal timbers are exposed; the rafters ceiled underneath with plaster. The

south and west sides retain the old hand-made tiles, apparently in good preservation, but loose and displaced. The north and east sides are covered with more modern hand-made tiles, and appear to be in fair condition. The dormer windows are in a rather bad state, and let in wet at their junction with the roofs.

The tops of the two chimney stacks are loose, and in places the stone cornice is missing.

At the eaves is fixed modern half-round iron guttering carried round to the back of the house, where it discharges into a tank for domestic purposes.

A detailed description of the repairs required to make the fabric sound and weatherproof was given in the report which was furnished to the Trustees, who decided to carry out the work in accordance with the Society's recommendations and under its direction.

The repairs are now in progress, and it is hoped to give an account of them in the next Report.

Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorkshire.

The Report for 1904 (pages 53 and 54) referred to this building. Since then, it has been reported upon by a well-known Architect, who proposed to "restore" it at an estimated cost of £3,200. The Society had some correspondence with the Vicar, which resulted in the building being again visited on behalf of the Society, and a detailed report prepared and forwarded to the authorities. This report stated that the Church could be put

into a proper state of repair, and fitted for use, at an estimated cost of £1,200.

The building consists of a chancel, with a chapel and sacristy on the north side and a chapel on the south; a nave with a tower at the west end; and north and south aisles extending to the west face of the tower.

The chancel, which appears to have been built in the thirteenth century, seems to have been altered considerably in the fifteenth century, when the walls were raised, the east window inserted, a new roof added, and the sacristy and chapel on the north side built. The chapel on the south side, known as the "Sutherland Chapel," is somewhat later in date. The walls are of stone, and appear to be in fair condition. They are faced with ashlar on the outside. The interior, unfortunately, has had the plaster covering removed and the rough walling exposed. The fifteenth century roof of the chancel is constructed of oak, in fair condition, and is covered with cast lead which is badly worn and dilapidated in places.

The north chapel is used as an organ chamber, and contains two fourteenth century windows. The east-most is of three lights, and was probably removed there from the east end of the aisle when the chapel was built. It contains a good stone effigy of a knight in chain armour, a small alabaster effigy of a child, and portions of an alabaster tomb.

In the north wall of the sacristy there is a small square-headed window, and a similar one in the east. The roof of the chapel and sacristy is modern, of rather flat pitch, and is slated.

The south chapel has a three-light fourteenth century window in the east wall, similar to that in the north chapel, probably removed from the east end of the south aisle when the chapel was built. Two three-light windows in the south wall are contemporary with the chapel. The north wall is pierced with two pointed arches, which are supported by an octagonal pier. The westmost arch contains the lower part of an oak screen which evidently enclosed the chapel; there is another smaller part across the west end, forming the side of the pew. The roof is of flat pitch, and is covered with stone slates on the north, and with ordinary slates on the south.

The walls of the nave appear to be the original thirteenth century work, pierced in the fourteenth century, when the aisles were added, with arcades of two bays. The clerestories are late fifteenth century work, each side has three two-light windows, in fair condition. The roof, which appears to be modern, is of rather flat pitch, and is covered with slates.

The walls of the aisles retain the original two-light windows, and the north and south doorways, in good condition.

The lean-to roofs of the aisles are constructed with oak rafters, covered with cast lead; but the westmost portion of the south roof has been renewed with deal rafters stained to imitate the old ones.

Reference to the condition of the tower was made in the Society's Report for 1904. It appears to have been built in the twelfth century, and altered in the thirteenth,

when the north, south, and east walls were pierced at the ground level with the existing pointed arches. The north and south arches are nearly the full width of the tower internally, and, unfortunately, on the west side sufficient abutment was not provided to withstand their thrust. Rough relieving arches were constructed through the thickness of the walls, above the pointed arches, and these have been a source of trouble by directly thrusting against the west wall. The result is evident in the bulged condition of the wall at the level of the rough relieving arches, where it is pushed outwards to the extent of about twelve inches. The east wall, which has the nave arcades as abutments, has to a great extent withstood the thrust and is only slightly bulged.

The Norman portion of the tower, about thirty feet in height, contains built up small round-headed windows, with widely splayed jambs internally, and the rough relieving arches are carried across them. There is no evidence that the foundation of the west wall is at fault, the bulge being entirely due to the thrust of the relieving arches. The west wall is pierced with a pointed doorway of fourteenth century date. The masonry of the tower is cracked in many places, and some of the fissures are of a serious nature.

The belfry stage, which seems to have been built in the fourteenth century, is faced with ashlar masonry in good preservation. The two-light windows on each face are good examples of the period. There are three bells; the tenor dated 1642, and the others 1663. They are hung in an old dilapidated oak frame, and the beams

underneath are in a bad state. The roof is covered with cast lead, very much worn and patched.

There is on the west face of the tower a poorly-constructed modern porch.

With the exception of a few sixteenth and seventeenth century pews in the south aisle, the fittings of the church are for the most part of modern deal.

The windows are glazed with old clear glass in leaded panes, and contain portions of old stained glass of great interest.

A full and detailed description of the works necessary for the preservation of the building was given in the report, and the Committee has pleasure in stating that the authorities have decided to act in accordance with the recommendations, and that a portion of the work will shortly be put in hand under the Society's auspices.

Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Stewkley, Bucks.

This church is Norman in date and consists of nave—without aisles—tower, between nave and chancel, and a square vaulted chancel; the nave and tower are unvaulted. Portions have been “restored.”

It was proposed to remove the cement with which the tower has been covered; and although this would probably improve the appearance, both the colour and texture being unpleasing, the Committee considers the work should be done only after close examination. One or two of the shafts of the arcade are split, and it is probable the cement was put on to cover up defects.

These, if disclosed, would probably result in "restoration" of the stonework.

A point of more importance was the proposal to add a vestry on the south side of the church. The Committee, after some correspondence with the Architect, communicated with the Bishop, pointing out that the addition would spoil the simplicity of the Norman plan, and that, from a purely utilitarian point of view, it appeared the requirements of the parish could be well met by utilising the west end of the church, screened off. It was also urged that the church is of such exceptional interest that, even if this would not entirely meet the case, the parish ought to be willing to sacrifice something to save such a building from disfigurement by modern additions.

Like representations were made by other Societies; but the Committee has learnt with much regret that sanction to the building of the vestry has been given.

St. Mary's Church, Trimley, Near Felixstowe, Suffolk.

This building was visited on behalf of the Society, at the request of a member. It consists of a chancel, with a modern vestry on the north side, nave, south porch, and western tower. The western portion of the nave was in ruins until about fifty years ago, when the whole building appears to have been restored.

The special question the Society was asked to consider was the repair of the existing portion of the western tower, which appears to have been built early in the

fifteenth century. The upper stages are missing down to the level of the first floor—where the south wall finishes. The north wall is about ten feet higher, and the west wall slopes upwards from south to north and is finished with a brick on edge coping, over which a lean-to roof evidently once existed.

The tower measures internally about nine feet three inches square, and the walls are about four feet ten inches in thickness. The east wall is pierced with a pointed arch, the full width of the tower, since built up with a brick wall. The west wall retains the original pointed doorway and a three-light window above it, in good preservation. The jambs and arch of the doorway are well moulded, and on the exterior enriched with carvings; the space above, to the underside of the window, is ornamented with cusped panels, containing coats of arms. The west window is built up, between the mullions, with brickwork. The doorway contains an old oak door in fair condition.

In the south-west angle is a circular stone staircase in the thickness of the wall, with an entrance doorway in the internal angle of the tower.

The western angles have external buttresses; the south one is rebuilt with brickwork, but that on the north is of stone and appears to be original. It has a moulded base, enriched with traceried panels similar to the base on the north side of the tower.

In its report, the Society recommended, among other works, that the walls should be repaired, the decayed plaster on the exterior face removed and renewed, the

brickwork of the south-west angle repointed, and the brickwork of the western window removed and the window glazed with clear crown glass in leaded lights. Also that the brick partition in the tower arch should be removed, and the walls plastered internally.

The tops of the walls are overgrown with vegetation. This, the Committee recommended, should be removed, and the walls repaired and treated with mortar, so as to render them weatherproof, without interfering more than is necessary with their present appearance. In addition, it was recommended that the tower should have a new roof, arranged with a view to avoiding interference with its present aspect.

The Society's Report was sent to our member, who was good enough to forward it to the church authorities; and the Committee understands that the recommendations contained in it have been favourably received.

Walpole St. Peter's Church, Norfolk.

In the last Report, after giving a short description of this beautiful building (pages 77-78), the Committee reported that the authorities had decided to act in accordance with the Society's recommendation.

A portion of the works recommended has now been carried out, for the most part by local workmen, under the personal direction of the architect, in consultation with the Society.

The works effected have been confined chiefly to the nave, of which the walls and roof have been thoroughly repaired.

In carrying out the works care was taken to protect the fine Jacobean seats and pulpit, and a temporary screen was erected to shut off the chancel, which thus was enabled to be used for service.

In repairing the walls of the nave, the holes for the old rood loft beams were discovered above the second eastmost piers of the nave arcade. These beams appear to have consisted of a lower and two upper timbers. It would seem that in the fifteenth century the two eastmost bays, which are narrower in width than the other five of the arcade, then formed the chancel; and that the present chancel was not built until the beginning of the sixteenth century. The height from the floor to the position of rood loft beams corresponds with the level of the existing doorways in the turret staircases adjoining the chancel arch, so that in all probability the chancel screen and rood loft were removed from their former position to the chancel arch, when the chancel was added. This supposition is strengthened by the fact that the portion of the chancel screen which still exists with its beautiful painted figures, accords in date with the eastmost bays. The roof is contemporary with the nave, which appears to have been built late in the fourteenth century. In repairing it, the lead covering and the old boarding were removed from the top of the rafters. The timbers were found to be much decayed on the top surfaces by the wet having come through the defective leadwork. The ends of the tie beams also were badly decayed, and new ends had to be spliced on and bolted to the sound portions. The

feet of the intermediate principals, which are carried down the wall and rest on stone corbels, were most of them badly decayed where in contact with the masonry, and here also it was found necessary to splice on new pieces. The wall plates on both sides of the roof were absolutely rotten, owing to the wet having come through the gutters behind the parapets, which were formerly laid on a bed of sand on the top of the wall without sufficient fall to the outlets. New square plates of English oak have been fixed, and the gutters have been reconstructed in deal with good falls to the existing outlets. In this reconstruction opportunity was taken to provide adequate ventilation to the plate and feet of the rafters.

The main timbers were carefully repaired and strengthened, without taking them down, and the purlins and ridge piece secured by bolting them to iron straps passing over the backs of the principals. On an average, two new rafters were fixed in each bay. The old oak boarding was badly decayed, and had to be largely supplemented with new English oak, spaced apart in a similar manner to the old. This was covered with deal boarding on which the lead has been relaid, after being recast to eight pounds per foot super—that for the gutters and spouts to nine pounds per foot super. Several of the old stone gargoyles, which support the lead shoots, were broken off close to the face of the wall; these were refixed to the parapet with bolts and cramps embedded in the stone.

The stone parapet on both sides of the roof was loose, and was refixed and repointed.

The masonry of the clerestory windows was split, owing to the corrosion of the iron bars which were built in at the springing of the arched heads. These bars have been removed, and the masonry repaired and repointed, and new saddle bars fixed on the inside face of the glazing. The old crown glass, with which the windows are glazed, has been carefully releaded, and all broken panes renewed with similar old glass.

The plaster on the interior has been brushed down and repaired and limewashed. Portions of a finely executed wall painting, representing the Judgment, were discovered on the face of the wall over the chancel arch and have been carefully uncovered. The central part was protected by a large coat of arms, and is in much better preservation than the remainder. The whole of the painted surface has been treated with a preservative of finely prepared size.

The masonry of the nave arcades has been cleaned down with a stiff brush, and repointed where necessary.

Some modern deal pews which surrounded the pulpit have been removed, and the pulpit lowered about two feet, so that its base now again rests on the floor. New steps of English oak have been provided to the pulpit to replace the former deal steps which blocked up the doorway of the turret staircase on the north side of the chancel arch. The doorway from the turret staircase, at the level of the rood beam, which was built up with brickwork, has been opened out, and an oak door fitted into the old frame.

The lead covering on the roofs of the south aisle and

porch has been repaired, and a new cover flashing fixed where the lead abuts against the wall of nave. Several cracks in the wall of the south aisle have been repaired and the loose portions of the parapets refixed. The plaster on the inside has been repaired and twice limewashed.

The walls of the turret staircase, at the south-west angle of the tower, which from the ground upwards were badly cracked, have been repaired and the sound work bonded together from the inside face. The stone steps up to the first floor level, which were badly worn, have been repaired and levelled up with granite dust and cement. The brick partition across the tower arch, underneath the ringing gallery, has been removed, and the gallery front refixed in its original position.

A brick floor has been provided at the ground level in the tower, laid on a bed of concrete with dry rubbish underneath.

The west doorway retains its original fourteenth century doors, and these have been carefully repaired and rehung.

The north and south porches also retain their original oak doors, richly carved and ornamented. The several coats of modern paint have been cleaned-off and traces of the original painting brought to light.

When funds are forthcoming, the work of repair to the north aisle will be undertaken. The roof timbers are fairly sound, but the lead covering is badly worn and leaks in several places.

Old Town Hall, Watlington, Oxon.

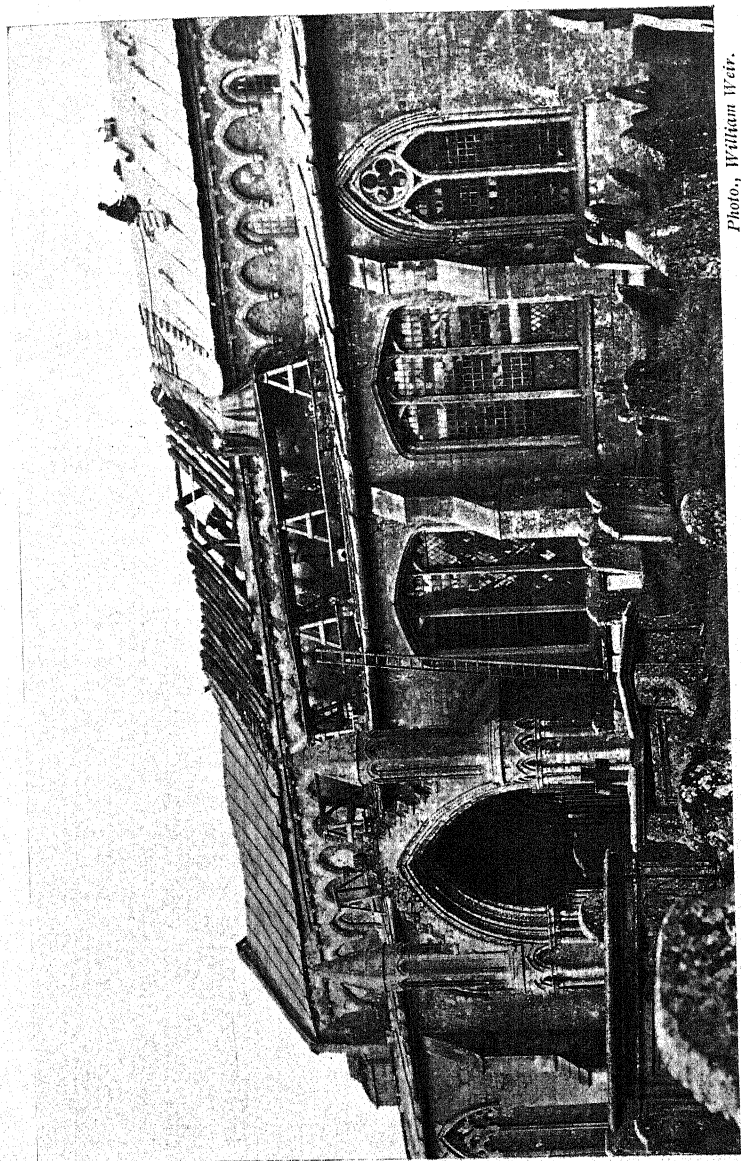
In the last Report (pages 80-81) a short account of the Old Town Hall at Watlington was given, and it was stated that the Vicar and others interested were trying to raise the necessary funds. The Committee has pleasure in reporting that the repairs are now being carried out under the personal supervision of the Architect in consultation with the Society, and it hopes to give a description of them in the next Report.

West Walton Church, Wisbech.

A description of this exceptionally valuable building was given in the last Report (pages 85-88), and it was then stated that the building was to be repaired under the auspices of the Society as soon as the sum needed had been raised. Some of the necessary works have recently been carried out. These were confined chiefly to the nave.

The various defects in the walls of the nave, including the cracks, have been rectified, the stonework cleaned, and the plaster repaired and limewashed.

The paintings in the spandrels of the nave arcades probably executed in the beginning of the eighteenth century, have been carefully cleaned, and treated with a finely prepared size. The clerestory arcade on the south side is ornamented with various patterns in red, and is also lined to represent the joints of masonry.



FROM THE SOUTH. DURING REPAIR, 1907.

WEST WALTON CHURCH, NORFOLK.

Photo, William Weir.

The decayed plaster was renewed, and treated with limewash of as near the old colour as possible.

The east wall, over the chancel arch, was found to contain a series of four niches, divided by well moulded piers with moulded caps and bases of thirteenth century workmanship, executed in clunch. The caps and heads had unfortunately been removed when the gable was lowered in the fifteenth century to suit the flattened pitch of the nave roof. Portions of the arch moulds and the caps were found built into the gable, and some of these have been removed and preserved in the Church. The piers are ornamented with finely carved rosettes of conventional flowers, cut at intervals in a hollow member of the moulding. Both the niches and piers were built up solid with the face of the wall. Sufficient of the filling-in has been removed to shew the form of the niches; but, owing to constructional reasons, they have not been entirely opened out. The face of the gable towards the chancel had four similar niches with splayed piers between. These are above the present roof of the chancel; and they also, for constructional reasons, have not been opened out. The original chancel roof was probably higher than the niches.

The gable has been repaired and repointed, and the stone weathering reset. The existing portion of the fourteenth century bell turret at the apex of the gable, has been repaired, and the top made weatherproof.

The exterior faces of the clerestory walls have been repaired and repointed with lias lime mortar.

The windows are glazed with old clear glass in leaded

lights; the leadwork has been renewed and the glazing refixed.

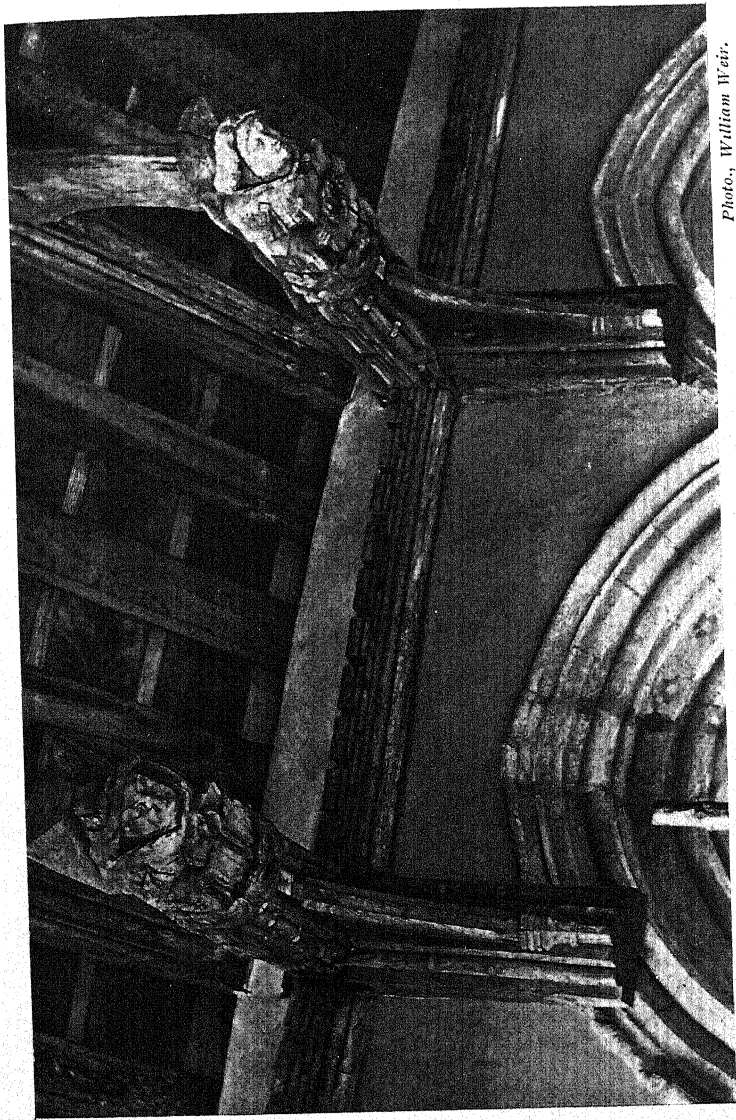
In dealing with the west wall of the nave, the circular turrets behind the exterior buttresses have been strengthened internally. The lower parts had been filled in behind the buttress, probably in the fifteenth century when the buttresses were built, but the upper still contains the original spiral stone stairs. These have now been underpinned down to the filling-in.

The mullions of the west window, etc., which were badly split by the corrosion of the iron window bars, have been repaired and the bars refixed so as to avoid further trouble.

The west front has been repaired, and the masonry repointed with lias lime mortar.

The work necessary to the fifteenth century roof of the nave proved to be more extensive than was anticipated, owing to wet having decayed the upper surfaces of most of the timbers. The roof was repaired without taking it down, and no more new wood was used than was absolutely necessary. The ends of the tie-beams and hammer-beams were built into the wall, were decayed, and new ends of English oak were spliced-on and secured with bolts. An average of one new rafter was fixed in each intermediate bay.

The old boarding on the rafters proved to be of deal, except in a few bays which retained the old oak. Where possible the old has been retained, but for the most part new English oak boarding has been used. This has been covered with deal, on which the lead, after recast-



NAVE ROOF AFTER REPAIR, 1907.

WEST WALTON CHURCH, NORFOLK.

Photo., William Wair.



ing, has been fixed. The lead was very much worn, and required an addition of four tons of virgin lead, in recasting, to make up the average weight of 7lbs. per foot super.

The modern deal seats of the nave, which were very dilapidated, have been replaced with chairs, set on a new oak floor laid on concrete with hard core underneath, to prevent the damp from the atmosphere condensing on the cold floor. The stone paving to the passage way between the seats has been relaid on concrete.

The modern pulpit has been repaired, and fixed on a new base of English oak.

With regard to the repair of the detached tower, the various defects in the walls of the ringing chamber, indicated by the cracks, have been repaired from the inside face. The bell frame and the beams underneath have been repaired and strengthened, in order to prevent the vibration from the bells affecting the tower. Several holes in the angles of the walls of the belfry, where beams had been removed, have been built up, and the wall bonded together. The north-east and south-east pinnacles at the top of the tower have been repaired. The upper portion of that on the north-east, which was missing, was found and refixed. The gutters behind the parapets, which were unsound, have been recast, and relaid with sufficient fall to the original outlets.

The weather vane has been repaired, and securely fixed on the old post at the middle of the roof. A lightning conductor has been installed, properly connected to the iron work of the vane, and to copper rods on the

pinnacles, and carried down the face of the tower to a good earth contact.

The work, so far as it has gone, has been done under the personal direction of the Architect in consultation with the Society.

Winchester Cathedral.

The Committee obtained leave from the authorities to send a sub-committee of Architects to inspect the work at Winchester Cathedral, and the following report was drawn up and published in the press. A long correspondence followed in the *Times*, and we have since heard that the pointing of the vaulting no longer shows out in dark lines. We hope this may be true, and that it indicates that the authorities have taken the matter to heart.

"Re WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

"To the Committee of

"The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

"From our examination we ascertained that the exterior walls of the Retro-Choir, Lady Chapel, and two side chapels, have been underpinned down to a gravel bed at an average depth of twenty feet below the ground level.

"The nature of the subsoil is composed of about fourteen feet of waterlogged earth, with a bed of peat underneath resting on the gravel, and in places a layer of silt deposited on the uneven surface of the gravel.

"When the work was commenced a strong pump was employed to keep the water down to the level of the gravel bed, in order to insert the concrete foundations; but as this resulted in the draining of the gravel to a dangerous extent, it was discontinued, and a diver

employed to construct a concrete bed about three feet six inches in depth over the gravel foundation. When this concrete bed had set, the water above was pumped out and the underpinning continued up with concrete blocks, to within a few feet of the old wall, which was pinned up with brickwork built in cement mortar.

"The thickness of the old walls averages about nine feet and the new foundation is carried down flush on the inside, with a projection of about five feet on the outside, making a total width of about fourteen feet. The concrete blocks and the mortar are made in the proportion of one part cement to four parts of sand and gravel, which we consider too strong, and that a better result would be obtained with a weaker proportion of one, to six or eight, according to the coarseness of the sand and gravel.

"The cracks in the walls have been treated with liquid cement forced in under pressure, and bonders of stone inserted, on the faces of the wall afterwards.

"The stone vaulting in the aisles was supported during the work of underpinning by temporary centering. The work of repairing the vaulting is being carried out as follows: The whole of the groining is being rebuilt, and the stone ribs where displaced are being reset to their assumed original positions. We found that a great number of new stones are being inserted in the ribs and groining, and in the latter where the old stones are reused, they have been refaced in a mechanical manner, with a "drag." The whole of the vaulting is being bedded and pointed with cement and sand which produces a most unsightly black joint, and destroys the original texture of the work. We consider that ground blue lias lime ought to have been used, in place of cement for the pointing in any case, and that the work would have been stronger eventually, had it been built entirely with blue lias lime and sand. We also consider that too much new stone is being used and that the old stone should not be destroyed by refacing. A large proportion of the moulded base around the outside of

the walls is also being renewed, which appears unnecessary and a great misfortune.

"The slight movement in the aisle walls of the nave appears to have been caused by the thrust of the stone vaulting, which should be arrested by the insertion of iron tie-rods, fixed over the vaulting and secured through the thickness of the walls. The spaces which occur between the vaulting and the walls should be grouted in with blue lias lime and sand.

"We had not time to examine the west front; but as we passed down the south-west turret stair we noticed certain works of inside scraping and pointing which, to say the least, might well have been postponed until after the urgent structural work.

"An enormous work remains to be done in underpinning. The tell tales put on weak points in the north transept in August, 1906, have mostly cracked. The north wall, which has broken away from the rest of the transept, is leaning outwards and still seems moving. The south wall of south transept overhangs very much (four feet six inches, they say, at the apex of the gable); and here, too, movement seems to continue, though slowly. The aisle vaults show cracks, and there have been recent falls of stone at two points. Clearly large sums of money are still required; and we are therefore all the more sorry not to be able to report favourably in some important particulars.

"The work in contemplation comprises:

"The underpinning of the exterior walls of the choir up to the retro-choir.

"The underpinning of the south wall of the transept and the building on the south side.

"The repair of the cracks in the east and west walls of the south transept.

"The repair of the stone vaulting in the aisles of the nave, and the repair of the west front.

"(Signed) WILLIAM WEIR.

WALTER K. SHIRLEY.

THACKERAY TURNER.

"November 26th, 1907."

*The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the
Society during the Year :*

- | | |
|--|---|
| Abingdon, Berks., St. Helen's Church. | Broughton Church, Oxon., Paintings. |
| Adderbury Church, Oxon., Wilmot Pew. | Bucklebury Church, Berkshire. |
| Aldington Church Tower, Kent. | Burford, Oxon., Cottage at. |
| Ashwell Thorpe Church, Norfolk. | Burford, Oxon., The Old Priory. |
| Aston-le-Walls Church Tower, Northants. | Burnley, Lancs., Foldy's Cross. |
| Athens, The Erechtheion. | Canterbury Castle, Kent. |
| Atherstone Church, Warwickshire. | Canterbury Cathedral, Kent. |
| Attleborough Church, Norfolk. | Canterbury City Walls, Kent. |
| Aust Church, Gloucestershire. | Carisbrooke Church, Isle of Wight. |
| Aylesford, Kent, Bridge. | Carrog, Corwen, Merionethshire, |
| Ayr, N.B., Auld Brig of. | Owen Glyndwr's Prison House. |
| Bacton Church, Herefordshire. | Chichester, Sussex, "The Guildhall." |
| Barningham Parva Church, Norfolk. | Churchill Church, Worcester-shire, Chalice. |
| Barrington Court, Somerset. | Cirencester, Gloucestershire, Town Hall. |
| Barrow-on-Trent Church, Derby. | Clifton Campville Church, Staffs. |
| Bath, Somerset, Roman Baths. | Clynnog Church, Carnarvonshire. |
| Beddington Church, Surrey. | Colyton Church, Devon, Tomb. |
| Bledlow Church, Bucks. | Coventry, Warwickshire, St. Mary's Hall. |
| Blofield Church, Norfolk. | Coventry, Warwickshire, Ancient Houses. |
| Boston, Lincs., The Ancient Guild Hall. | Crowcombe, Somerset, Church House. |
| Bournbrook, nr. Birmingham, Manor House. | Cyprus, Antiquities of. |
| Bowden Kirk, N.B. | Dedham Church, Essex. |
| Bradbourne Church, Derby. | Denbigh, The Burgesses' Tower. |
| Bradford-on-Avon, Wilts., Saxon Church. | Dersingham, Norfolk, Remains of Cross. |
| Bradinch Church, Devon, Font. | Donington Church, Lincs. |
| Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex, Old Church. | Dover, Kent, Seamen's Hospital. |

- Drayton Church, Norfolk.
 Dundarave Castle, Argyllshire,
 N.B.
 Dunfermline, N.B., Cottages.
 Dunkeld Cathedral, N.B.
 Dunnydeer Castle, Aberdeen.
 Dymchurch Church, Kent.
 Eaglescliffe Church, Durham.
 East Grinstead, Sussex, Sackville
 College.
 Edenbridge Church, Kent.
 Edware Parish Church, Middle-
 sex.
 Eton College, Bucks.
 Exeter Cathedral, Devonshire.
 Eynsford, Kent, Little Moat.
 Farnham Church, Dorset.
 Farnham Church Tower, Surrey.
 Felixstowe Church, Suffolk.
 Flordon Church, Norfolk.
 Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.
 Gloucester, St. Mary de Crypt
 Church
 Goodrich Castle, Herefordshire.
 Great Oakley Church, Essex.
 Guildford, Surrey, St. Catherine's
 Chapel.
 Hanborough Church, Oxon.
 Haverhill Church, Suffolk.
 Hendon Ch. Tower, Middlesex.
 Heptonstall, Yorks., Church of St.
 Thomas à Becket.
 Hexham Abbey, Northumberland.
 High Wycombe, Bucks., Hospital
 of St. John.
 Himbleton, Worcestershire,
 Church Cottages.
 Holyrood Abbey, N.B.
 Honeychurch Church, Devon.
 Horsell Church, Surrey.
 Hough Church, Lincs.
 Hougham Church, Lincs.
 Hushwaite Church, Yorks.
 Hythe, Kent, The Smugglers'
 Retreat.
 Ickleton Church, Cambs.
 Ightham Church, Kent.
 Ightham Mote, Kent.
 Indian Monuments.
 Inglesham Church, Wilts.
 Iona Cathedral, N.B.
 Ipswich, Suffolk, Ancient House,
 Carr Lane.
 Isle Abbots Church, Somerset.
 Ivychurch Church, Kent.
 Kelling Church, Norfolk.
 Kenfig Hill Church, Glamorgan-
 shire.
 Kessingland Church, Suffolk.
 Kirkburton Church, Yorks.
 Kirkby Malzeard Church, Yorks.
 Kirkdale Church, Yorks.
 Kirkstead Chapel, Lincs.
 Kits Coty House, Kent.
 Kniveton Church, Derbyshire.
 Lavenham, Suffolk, The Guildhall.
 Leaden Roding Church, Essex.
 Leake Church, Yorks.
 Leek, Staffs., Alms-houses.
 Lichfield, Staffs., Dr. Johnson's
 House.
 Lilbourne Church, Northants.
 Little Hampden Church, Bucks.
 Llanengan Ch., Carnarvonshire.
 Llangelynin Ch., Carnarvonshire.
 Llangibby Church, Mon.
 Llanrwst, Ancient Bridge, Den-
 bighshire.
 Llantwit Major Church, Glamor-
 ganshire.
 London, Bishopsgate Street,
 Crosby Hall, E.C.
 London, Chelsea Old Church.
 London, 75, Dean Street, W.
 London, Kensington Palace, The
 Orangery.
 London, Kingsland Road, Sir
 Robert Geffery's Alms-houses.
 London, Lewisham, Colfe's Alms-
 houses.
 London, Lincoln's Inn Fields,
 W.C., The Old Curiosity Shop.
 London, London Wall, St.
 Alphege Church.
 London, Mile End Road, Trinity
 Alms-houses.

- London, Stratford, Bow Church, E.
 London, Westminster Abbey.
 Low Halstow Church, Kent.
 Lympne Castle, Kent.
 Lynsted Church, Kent.
 Lytes Carey Manor House,
 Somerset.
 Maidstone, Kent, Old Bishop's
 Palace.
 Malvern Priory Church, Wor-
 cestershire.
 Marden Church, Kent.
 Marton Church, Lincs.
 Mepal Church, Cambs.
 Merstham Church, Surrey.
 Middlewich Church Tower,
 Cheshire.
 Millbrook Old Church, Hants.
 Monkton, Farleigh, Wilts., Ruins.
 Monkton, Jarrow, Durham, An-
 cient Spring of St. Bede.
 Mont Orgueil Castle, Jersey.
 Montrose Academy, N.B.
 Muchelney, Somerset, Old
 Priest's House.
 Newbury, Berks., Bridge.
 Newbury, Berks., Old Town Hall.
 Newport Church, Salop.
 Northleigh, Oxon., Roman Villa.
 Northumberland, Roman Wall.
 Norton Church, Baldock, Herts.
 Norwich, Norfolk, All Saints'
 Church.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St.
 Mary Coslany.
 Norwich, Norfolk, Church of St.
 Peter Hungate.
 Norwich, Norfolk, The Guildhall.
 Nottingham, St. Mary's Church.
 Oxford, St. Michael's Church
 Tower.
 Palling-on-Sea, Norfolk, St. Mar-
 garet's Church.
 Palmyra, Damascus, Triumphal
 Arch.
 Parracombe Church, Devon.
 Pembrey Church, Carmarthen-
 shire.
 Pembrige Ch., Herefordshire.
 Penshurst Place, Kent.
 Pevensey Castle, Sussex.
 Pistyll Church, Carnarvonshire.
 Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.
 Poundstock, Cornwall, Church
 House.
 Puddleston Church, Hereford-
 shire.
 Puttenham Church, Surrey.
 Ragdale Church, Leicestershire.
 Ranworth Church, Norfolk.
 Rauceby Church Tower, Lincs.
 Rievaulx Abbey, Yorks.
 Risley, Derby, Grammar School.
 Rockland, St. Peter's Church,
 Norfolk.
 Rome, Aurelian Wall.
 St. Alban's Abbey, Herts.
 St. Patricio Church, Breconshire.
 Salthouse Church, Norfolk.
 Saltwood Castle, Kent.
 Sheriff Hutton Castle, Yorks.
 Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorks.
 Skipton Church, Yorks.
 Sonning Bridges, Oxon.
 South Perrott Church, Dorset.
 South Pickenham Ch., Norfolk.
 Stamford, Lincs., Ancient Houses.
 Stanground Church, nr. Peter-
 borough.
 Staverton Church, Northants.
 Stevenon, Berks., Ancient House.
 Stewkley Church, Bucks.
 Stanford-on-Avon Ch., Rugby.
 Swainswick Church, Somerset.
 Temple Bruer, Lincs., Ancient
 Tower.
 Tenterden Church, Kent.
 Theydon Garnon, Essex, Church
 House.
 Thornton Steward Church, Yorks.
 Trimley Church, Suffolk.
 Trunch, Norfolk, House at.
 Turvey Church, Beds., Doorway.
 Walpole, St. Peter's Church,
 Norfolk.
 Warwick, St. John's House.

Watlington, Oxon., Old Town Hall.	Winchester Cathedral, Hants.
West Drayton, Middlesex, St. Martin's Church Tower.	Winchester Coll. Chapel, Hants.
West Horsley Church, Surrey.	Winchester, Hants., St. Cross Hospital.
West Malling Abbey, Kent.	Wootton Wawen Church, Warwickshire.
West Walton Church, Norfolk.	Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
Whittlesford Church, Cambs.	Wrestlingworth Church, Beds.
Wiggenhall, Norfolk, Church of St. Mary Magdalen.	York, St. Olave's Church.
Willoughby-in-the-Wolds Ch., Notts.	York, Porch, St. Margaret's Parish Church, Walmgate.

REPORT OF GENERAL MEETING.

THE General Meeting of the Society was held on Friday, June 26th, 1908, in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, W., by the kind permission of that Society.

The chair was taken by Sir William B. Richmond, K.C.B., R.A., F.S.A.

The Chairman, in proposing that the Report be taken as read and adopted, referred to the increasing influence of the Society, and alluded to some of the buildings mentioned in the Report, more especially Exeter Cathedral, which he had visited with the Sub-Committee.

Mr. Philip Norman, LL.D., F.S.A., seconded the motion and called attention to the increasing number of Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries who were now members of the Society. He also said he considered the decision to preserve Aylesford Bridge, although doubtless influenced by local opposition to its destruction, was largely the result of the Society's efforts.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Sir John Stirling Maxwell, Bart., F.S.A., then read the following paper :

A REASONABLE POLICY FOR PROTECTING ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

I take it we are all agreed that the work done by this Society is a useful and important work, that we are all grateful for its very remarkable achievements, and have no complaint to make except that in the nature of things they cannot go far enough.

It is impossible to read its Report without suspecting that it is doing work which ought in some measure at least to be the work of the State. If the State is to be drawn into such work your Society will have a leading voice in deciding what plan is to be adopted. That is why I have chosen this subject for the brief paper which I have been asked to read to-day.

Much light has been poured on this whole matter lately by Professor Baldwin Brown's book on the *Cave of Ancient Monuments*, a book which every member of this Society ought to keep by him. It gives a concise but readable account down to 1905 of the practice of all civilised nations in regard to their monuments.

That other countries do a thing is no argument that we should do it, but it is a fact that ours is the only civilised country in which the State has made no serious effort to protect ancient buildings. Other countries have accumulated a great deal of experience by which we may profit. Even the Balkan States in the intervals of those bloody scimmages which the newspapers elect to describe as "unrest" have found leisure to

legislate about their ancient buildings. Our own dependencies of India and Egypt have under Lord Curzon and Lord Cromer embarked on careful policies of monument preservation.

Laws and edicts are not for a June afternoon. For them you must go to Professor Baldwin Brown. I shall only refer to the practice of other countries so far as it affects my argument.

But first as to our own. Our experience is of the slightest, but important as the nucleus of anything to come. We have since 1882 lived under a gentle Monument Act—so gentle that most people have never heard of it. That Act specified certain monuments, mostly prehistoric, which might be voluntarily surrendered to the Office of Works and maintained by that Office. H.M. Commissioner of Works now has charge of forty-one such monuments, including a few not numbered in the schedule of the Act.

In 1900 Parliament gave County Councils power to take charge of buildings voluntarily made over to them, and to administer funds voluntarily contributed for their up-keep. Not much has come of that mild permissive measure, though the London County Council deserves praise for having taken over and begun to publish, perhaps in too elaborate a form, an inventory of ancient monuments and buildings in London, and for undertaking the duty of labelling the houses of the famous dead.

Quite recently the Secretary for Scotland has appointed a Commission, with Sir Herbert Maxwell as chairman,

to report on the ancient monuments of that country—a step on which we north of the Tweed build great hopes.

Ireland has by an accident fared better. When the Irish Church was disestablished 134 old ecclesiastical buildings were transferred to the Commissioner of Works with £50,000 for their upkeep, and other buildings have since been added, so that they have now reached the respectable total of 189, including several abbeys, and other important buildings, etc., as against the forty-one in England and Scotland which comprise little of more architectural pretension than a menhir or a dolmen. Whether the modesty of these results is to be regretted is a question we will discuss in a moment. Meanwhile mark that legislation is not likely to effect much while it lacks compulsion and money. Ours has none of either except the interest on the £50,000 from the Irish Church.

The case of France presents an instructive contrast. France is extraordinarily rich in old buildings, and but for the Revolution and the still more destructive epoch of the Restoration would be much richer. The vandalism of these periods produced a tremendous reaction which, urged on by the pens of Victor Hugo and other notable writers, produced a lasting impression on public opinion in that country. France has had an official Historic Monuments Commission since 1837. Till 1887 it had no power of compulsion, but it was well provided with the alternative engine of money. In 1896 no less than £120,000 was voted for the upkeep of National Monuments, and I understand that this sum does not include

£60,000 spent the same year on the Cathedrals and Bishops' Palaces, which were as you remember under Napoleon's Concordat kept up by the State.

The result of all this effort has been in some respects happy, in others very much the reverse. A list has been compiled of Historic Monuments all over France. That is a most valuable step. It comprises all kinds of buildings belonging both to public bodies and private persons. In the town of Bourges, for example, I find the following classed as Historic Monuments. The Town Walls, the Cathedral, the Cathedral windows, the windows in the Church of St. Bonnet, the Home of Jacques Cœur, and two other houses, seven in all. In the neighbouring town of Auxerre I find five Historic Monuments. In Orleans ten. In Dijon there are, I think, sixteen. Dijon is of course a place of importance—the old capital of Burgundy—but these examples are enough to shew that the Commission take a fairly generous view of what ought to be preserved.

One cannot speak with the same satisfaction of the expenditure of the money. Everywhere restoration has been overdone. In some buildings, like the churches at Perigueux or Vezelay, scarcely an old stone is visible. The copy is doubtless as faithful as it can be made, but the original document is gone. Besides, parts of these thorough restorations which attempt to discard later work and restore the building to its original state are always bound to be speculative and the student is justified in regarding the whole result with suspicion—the same suspicion that seizes him before the north front

of Westminster Abbey, especially if he happens to have read Professor Lethaby's book. At Auxerre even while we sit here, the fine fourteenth century gargoyles of the Cathedral are being replaced quite needlessly as it seems by brand-new copies. Clearly there is too much money. The machine is too much centralised and too vast to be under control. Too many people have to make a living out of the restoration business.

If the recent treatment of ancient buildings in Great Britain and France is compared, there can be no doubt that our relics have fared best. Why then, you will ask, make any change? Because the state of things here still leaves much to be desired. How many buildings have not within our recollection vanished or been spoilt in spite of the efforts of this society? Look at St. Alban's Abbey Church. Look at Lincoln's Inn Chapel. Two lamentable cases of money lavishly spent to a thoroughly bad purpose.

Or take buildings in private hands. It would be invidious to pillory other offenders, but one may say what one likes about oneself. Let me take as typical cases two old buildings which belong to me. Neither could claim to rank as an historic monument, but if we had, as we ought to have, an authority in every county to look after its ancient buildings, both would figure on the county list. One is a fortified house built in the sixteenth century, as a dower house for the laird's widow, small, but a very perfect specimen of its class. A fire deprived it of its roof, but in the fifties, when my predecessor took it in hand, its walls were perfectly preserved.

He made it habitable without doing any harm. But after his death a house was required for the agent. The lot fell on this unhappy old place and my guardians devoted a sum of money to its transformation. Three of these gentlemen were enthusiastic antiquaries and one a man of much experience and good taste in architecture. They would have spared no trouble had they known that an interesting old building was in jeopardy. But they never saw the house. They never knew what they were doing. Well, I refrain from the melancholy details. It is enough to say that spacious windows and a lofty oriel are now the conspicuous features of this once grim old building, that it has a new door and a new staircase, and that some of its more interesting stones adorn a rockery in the garden.

The other building is a square fifteenth century Keep, with four square towers at the corners, an unusual type in Scotland. After it had passed through the usual ruin-and-quarry period, the above-mentioned predecessor endowed one of the towers with a roof and floors and put a gamekeeper to live there as caretaker. It proved too eerie or too inconvenient an abode for the keeper's wife, and when I came of age it was tenantless and open to invasion by all the boys of a populous neighbourhood. A door was needed. I ordered a door of oak to be made, a very nice door, and left it to be put up while I was abroad. Now the entrance except for the door and portcullis was untouched and its arrangements were very curious and complete. For one thing the principal stair was so placed that the

opened door completely hid it. For another the heavy bar of the same door was so contrived that it shot back when opened through a hole in the wall and blocked a smaller staircase on the other side. I had intended the new door to be hung on the old hinges. But my mason determined to make a job of it and did his part so conscientiously that all the arrangements above described were obliterated by the time I returned. If people who really love their old buildings can fall into blunders like these, surely there is a case for supervision? The enormities to which I have confessed would never have happened if the work had been done under the welcome supervision of an authority accustomed to deal with such matters.

Another very recent case which comes to my mind is that of the bridge of Callander in Perthshire, the only antiquity of the place and a feature of great beauty. Well, it has just been swept away by the County Council because it was inconveniently narrow and steep for the tourists' motors—a short-sighted step which is more likely to diminish than increase the number of visitors to the place. But no need to argue a case which everyone can prove for himself in his own neighbourhood.

Now our problem is this. We want to preserve the advantages of our happy-go-lucky system, especially the sense of individual responsibility, which in spite of the lapses of some reprobates like myself, has on the whole worked well for the last fifty years. What for instance could on the whole be better than the present

treatment of most of the Abbeyes which have fallen into private hands, Fountains, Rievaulx, Battle, Beaulieu, Melrose, Sweetheart? Or castles such as Hurstmonceaux, Bodiam, Kenilworth, Warkworth, or Craigmillar? All these and many others are safe. All that is required is authoritative advice when difficult problems arise, as at Rievaulx. But we want to extend the same treatment to other less famous buildings. We want to put buildings, which are still in use and therefore subject to alteration, under supervision. We want to keep an eye on our Deans and Chapters. We want to make sure that the squire has good advice when he determines to put the Parish Church in order and do up the Village Cross.

The various shapes legislation may take will be found in Professor Baldwin Brown's book, with many laws projected or passed by various States, German and other. I have said nothing about these because they have not yet stood the test of experience. Likewise I pass by the older legislation of countries like Denmark and Sweden, which is mainly occupied with prehistoric curiosities; and Greece and Italy, which are concerned with digging and the strange tendency of their works of art to escape from the country; nor shall I allude to the very instructive bye-laws of certain towns which live by their antiquities, and realise that their attractive power must be stringently protected. France is the great example for us of what to do and what not to do. With France in my mind I sketch the following outline of a scheme:

(1) We should create a central Monument Commission for each of the three Kingdoms. It would be its business to draw up a list (not a very long one) of buildings, etc., to be classed as National Monuments in each Kingdom. The list would include the cathedrals, a few exceptional churches, castles, and other outstanding buildings, and a few prehistoric monuments such as Stonehenge. All these would be sacred. They would be under the direct control of the Commissioners, and none of them could be touched without their sanction. They would have a grant to administer, say, of £20,000 a year for England (even £10,000 would do a great deal), and for the other Kingdoms in proportion, with perfect freedom to use the money as they thought best, presenting an annual report and balance sheet to Parliament. They would no doubt retain the services of one or more architects and of inspectors. They would by no means relieve the present proprietors of the upkeep of the buildings, but their consent would be necessary to every alteration. They would be in a position to give substantial assistance where it was required, and they would have power, or facilities for obtaining power, to step in and do necessary repairs themselves where the building was proved to be neglected. The Commissioners, who might number seven for each Kingdom, would be unpaid. They would not have to meet very often when the work was once in full swing.

(2) In addition to these central bodies there should be a County Monument Commission for each county,

whose business it would be to draw up a list of the objects of interest in its own area. These might be termed County Monuments. It would not be necessary to schedule whole buildings. Often only part of a building would be scheduled. Once on the list no building could be altered without giving notice and submitting plans to the County Commission. I should not give the County Commissioners power to veto alterations. That power would be much resented, Parliament would hesitate to give it, and it would, as I believe, be very rarely necessary. It would be worth while to chance a few cases for the sake of taking public opinion with you. The County Council would be represented on the Commission, and would have a limited power of contributing from the rates towards the upkeep of County Monuments. The prospect of even a small grant would bring many owners into line. In most counties the work of the Commission would not occupy the whole time of an architect or inspector, but a retaining figure would be given to an architect to make reports for the Commissioners when required. A list would be kept of careful scholarly Architects, and of Contractors and Clerks of Works who could be trusted to deal with ancient buildings.

It would be one of the duties of each County Commission to prepare an inventory of objects of interest in the County, on the lines of the "Geographies" published by Joanne for every Department in France. These consist of a map of the department, with a short account of its natural features, climate, history and industries,

running to ten or twenty pages, including illustrations and an index of parishes giving in the briefest possible form the objects of interest in each, with their dates, and indicating any which have been classed as Historic Monuments. The value of these little booklets can hardly be exaggerated. They are sold at the station book-stalls for a franc apiece. It would be the business of the Central Commission to see to the publication of these little books and to their revision from time to time. I believe they could be produced for 6*d*.

I have deliberately abstained from taking our existing legislation as a basis because it depends wholly on H.M. Office of Works, and that Office, unless reconstituted, could not do the work. The monuments now under its charge, except so far as they are the property of the Crown, would be distributed among the new Commissions. The First Commissioner of Works should be *ex-officio* a member of the Monument Commission in each of the three Kingdoms and should take charge of their estimates in Parliament.

Now it is time to conclude this rudimentary sketch. I should have liked to fill in the outlines a little; to examine the reasons on which this kind of policy should be based; to show how the schoolmaster, the parson and the squire could be drawn into support of it and put on their mettle, and how the Archæological Associations and local antiquaries could help; to consider what sort of men are needed to man the proposed Commissions, and how little time they would require to devote to the business if they really knew their subject and their

counties; to attempt to meet the difficulties of nightmare cases like Crosby Hall; to discuss the need of special measures to protect buildings of that most vulnerable age, when they are neither new nor old, but simply old-fashioned, when they have no friends and are liable to have mints of money spent on senseless efforts to transform them into something more fashionable. But these things are not for a June afternoon.

If any such policy as I have attempted to foreshadow be adopted no doubt the men who have conducted this Society in the face of so many difficulties and earned so much experience will be eagerly sought for the public service. But I trust the Society will still live and thrive, to keep a vigilant eye on the whole business and keep everyone concerned up to the mark.

The Hon. Percy Wyndham proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and said he would not attempt to express an opinion upon the scheme outlined in the paper without first having given it more detailed consideration than was possible under the circumstances, but that personally he thought he should be inclined to favour local control in preference to control by a central authority.

Mr. Nigel Bond seconded the proposition, and suggested that where ancient buildings were for sale the Government should have pre-emption.

The motion was agreed to by acclamation.

The following paper by Mr. Somers Clarke, F.S.A.

(who was present, but owing to a throat affection was unable to address the meeting), was kindly read by the Chairman.

Works of reparation to ancient buildings in Egypt are at present being carried out in two directions. One is the repair and sustentation of those temples and buildings which are under the care of the Department of Antiquities, of which M. Gaston Maspéro is the head, and to these the attention of members of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings may first be called.

However much it may be contrary to our wishes, contrary to our sentiment of respect for ancient works of art, we cannot hide from ourselves the fact that the construction of the Dam at Aswan has been of immense value to the welfare of Egypt. The Dam, as already built, has raised the level of the Nile so considerably that, as we all know, not only the whole Island of Philae, with the group of temples, colonnades and quays, has been more or less engulfed, but other monuments, not so well known but of equal interest, have suffered.

Seeing the benefits that have been conferred upon the country by the increased water supply, the Egyptian Government has resolved, after giving the matter the deepest consideration, to raise the Dam so that the water in the reservoir which it forms will stand twenty-three feet higher than it does now, and consequently ancient buildings which, until now, have remained above the water, will suffer from partial or total immersion in the rising flood.

The Egyptian Government has, however, been by no means indifferent to the peril which has overtaken the ancient buildings and has granted a very liberal sum of money to provide for underpinning and solidifying these venerable structures.

This work, one of no little difficulty and hazard, is being carried out by the Department of Antiquities, under the supervision of M. Maspéro, the Director General. I have visited these works and give some particulars.

A few miles south of the Island of Philae we come upon the little temple of Dabôd.

The works here have been completed during the winter season last past.

The structure is, we may hope, thoroughly sound and strong, standing as it now does upon new and solid foundations, but the effect of the work upon the appearance of the building is disastrous.

That an ancient building of the type of an Egyptian temple can be thoroughly strengthened and parts of it completely rebuilt, yet retaining the air of venerable antiquity with which it was previously marked, has been proved by the admirable work of M. George Legrain at Karnak.

At Dabôd all the joints between the blocks of stone are pointed with staring lines of cement. Everything is reduced to the most prim and terrible order.

The temple suggests to the spectator that it is a model and not the real thing.

A little further south the temple at Taifeh has under-

gone the same treatment. It looks as if it had just come out of a box.

About thirty miles south of Philae we find ourselves at Kalabsha, in the presence of one of the most majestic temples on the Nile.

Very extensive works have here been necessary owing to the size and weight of the structure; but, from the fact that the building is so large, the works of repair are less manifest; the new filling-in of the joints between the stones, carried out as it has been to an unnecessary extent, has been lost over surfaces so large. The building is, and at once proclaims itself to be, a ruin. Here and there a few massive stones have been left prone on the floor of the courtyard; the place is not swept and garnished as was done with such disastrous results in the temple of Kom Ombo by M. de Morgan.

It is earnestly to be hoped that the temples of Dakka and of Maharraga, which have yet to be taken in hand, may be treated with a tender hand and not reduced to newness; that they may not, in fact, have all their poetry taken out of them.

The other direction in which works of repair are being actively carried on, is in dealing with the Mosques and other buildings of Saracenic Art which we find chiefly in Cairo.

These buildings are placed under the care of the 'Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'art Arabe,' of which organisation Max Herz Bey is the architect, and has been so for a considerable number of years.

Herz Bey may be congratulated upon having dealt with a considerable number of these beautiful buildings with great success. I have already called the attention of this Society to the scrupulous care with which works of singular difficulty have been carried out. But, unfortunately, from time to time Restoration with a capital R breaks out. Repair gives place to destruction or to fanciful emendations when no more was necessary to be done than to let things alone.

One of the worst and most gratuitous pieces of interference took place in the Mosque of Sultan Hassan.

In the centre of the great courtyard of this Mosque stands a large and picturesque fountain canopied by a dome resting on pillars. At the south-west side of this had been placed, at a somewhat later date, a smaller fountain, also with its canopy. This fountain was especially intended for the ablution of the Hanafite section of the worshippers, who require that the water they make use of shall be running and not stagnant.

For no valid reason this interesting object has been taken away. History is tampered with and picturesqueness is destroyed. It is but a small comfort to know that the fountain has been set up in another mosque where it was never intended to have been.

We find another piece of gratuitous interference in the eminently beautiful and picturesque interior of the Muristan Kallaün.

In this building the tomb of the founder stands in the centre of a group of columns which form an octagon, enclosed by the square of the outer walls. Not only was

the tomb surrounded by an openwork screen of wood, but it had been protected by a canopy of wood-work, painted, and supported on four columns.

The walls and windows of the tomb-house have been very carefully repaired. One part of the roof was still clothed with its ceiling of rich woodwork painted, the other parts had been patched, mended, and cruelly defaced. The ruined ceilings have now been repaired in their old form, whilst one compartment has been repainted in the old colours, which were easily to be traced. There is no Restoration with a big R in this work, more especially as everywhere there are inscriptions, carved or inlaid, which give the date at which every piece of repair has been done.

But the canopy over the tomb has been remorselessly swept away. It is affirmed that "it is not in the style"; "it is late"; "it is Turkish," and, most wonderful reason of all, "there is not elsewhere an example of a canopy over a tomb"! The greater reason, one would have supposed, for preserving this one. This is a piece of gratuitous destruction against which we cannot too loudly raise our voices: nor can we too earnestly plead for the canopy to be once more set up in its original place—for I understand that it is not entirely destroyed.

Mr. John Hebb, F.R.I.B.A., proposed a vote of thanks to the Society of Antiquaries for the use of the room. This was seconded by Mr. Thackeray Turner, who urged the necessity for obtaining new members,

the loss by death during the past year having been considerable.

The proposition was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. John Carruthers, C.E., a vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman for presiding.

The Chairman having responded, the proceedings terminated.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr. *Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1907.* **Cr.**

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1906, as per last statement	- 100 4 3	By Payments during the year 1907:—	
" Receipts during the year 1907:—		Rector of Hassett, Suffolk, for Church Repair Fund	5 0 0
Donations	- 15 5 0	Rector of Walpole St. Peter, Norfolk, for Church Repair Fund	2 0 0
		Cash at London City & Midland Bank, 31st December, 1907	108 9 3
	<u>£115 9 3</u>		<u>£115 9 3</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,
WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

27th April, 1908.

Dr. *MORRIS FUND, 1907.* **Cr.**

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount on Deposit at the London City & Midland Bank as per last statement	70 7 11	By Expenses of Sub-Committee in visiting Exeter Cathedral	16 19 0
" Donation	5 0 0	" Amount on Deposit at the London City & Midland Bank	60 12 5
" Interest on Deposit	2 3 6		
	<u>£77 11 5</u>		<u>£77 11 5</u>

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Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1907.

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RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1906, as per last statement -	13 19 8½	By Payments during the year 1907:—	
„ Receipts during the year 1907:—		Printing -	28 15 9
Annual Subscriptions -	296 0 3	Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses	28 0 4
Donations -	6 6 0	Members' Travelling Expenses	17 18 8½
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings -		Secretary's Salary -	120 0 0
and Sale of Reports -	10 17 6	Clerk's Salary -	91 0 0
	313 3 9	Rent of Office -	25 0 0
			310 14 9½
		„ Cash at London City & Midland Bank, 31st December, 1907 -	12 19 6
		„ Cash at Office -	3 9 2
			16 8 8
			<u>£327 3 5½</u>

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ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Committee considers that a good idea of the amount of work done by the Society may be gathered from the following notes on some of the cases which have received its attention during the past year.

The work of the Society is, however, seriously handicapped by the smallness of its income, and the Committee is therefore most anxious that during the current year the membership should be largely increased, and it will be grateful for any assistance in this direction.

With this object in view the Society's papers will gladly be forwarded to members willing to send them to those likely to be interested, or, if preferred, they will be forwarded direct to any address given.

As indicative of the trend of public opinion toward the Society's aims, the following article, which is reprinted by special permission of "*The Times*," is of exceptional interest.

THE PRINCIPLES OF RESTORATION.

"*The Times*," 12th June, 1909.

We have recently published protests against the restoration to which the west front of Exeter Cathedral is now being subjected. We do not propose at the moment to discuss the merits or demerits of this

particular restoration; but since, whenever a Cathedral is restored, the same protests and the same controversies are sure to arise, it may be worth while to consider what principles ought to be followed in the restoration or repair of ancient buildings. The first and the most frequently ignored is this, that any copy of a fine old building or of any expressive part of it is sure to be a dull absurdity. A great Gothic Cathedral is a work of art, just like a great picture or statue, and a work of art produced in conditions and expressing a state of mind which now no longer exist. It was produced, of course, not by one man, but by many; but that fact makes it no easier to imitate. Gothic architecture was a growth, not a game, and an imitation Gothic building is as little like a real one as an imitation tree is like a real one; that is to say, it has a superficial resemblance, but lacks all the qualities which make the original beautiful and interesting. This is not mere theorising; it is a fact proved by all the imitation Gothic buildings and all the purely imitative restorations which have been produced since HORACE WALPOLE first started the Gothic revival with his ugly toy at Strawberry Hill. Nothing proves it more thoroughly than the imitation Gothic sculpture and stained-glass windows with which so many Cathedrals both in England and France have been defaced. The windows are more fiercely ugly than the sculpture; but both have the inevitable dullness of imitation so close that it implies a complete lack of inspiration.

The objection to this kind of restoration is not that it is modern, as many people suppose. Every great work of art is modern when it is produced; and no doubt the greatest look their best when they are new and just what the artists meant them to be. The objection is that these imitations are neither modern nor ancient. They have not the character of any age or the stamp of any individuality. The extreme opponents of restoration seem to hold that we have no right to touch a Cathedral except to prevent it from tumbling down. But that view implies an utter despair of all modern art, and it is

not a view that has been held in any age of living art. The builders of each successive age of Gothic architecture were quite ready to take liberties with the work of their predecessors. But they were not ready to imitate that work so soon as it belonged to the past. Nor were they afraid of any incongruity between the past and the present. Even when Gothic architecture was superseded by the Renaissance, the Renaissance architects continued to make additions to Gothic churches, and many of these can only look incongruous to a pedantic eye. What does look incongruous is the mixture of imitative with original work, and this is an incongruity which has been reserved for the timid purism of modern times. Perhaps the best we can do, where the fronts and porches of our Cathedrals lack their original sculpture or only keep a few broken and battered remains of it, is to leave them alone and to make only such structural repairs as are absolutely necessary. The next best is to supply them with sculpture designed entirely by living artists, and without any attempt to imitate old work. Such sculpture has at least the chance of being expressive. But the sculpture which has no aim except to avoid incongruity is sure to have the worst incongruity of all—the incongruity of death compared with life.

It is the same with all ornament that is a mere joyless imitation of originals that were produced with joy and conviction. They may be careful and skilful, but the care and skill are sure to be all exercised in the elimination of those very qualities that make art beautiful and interesting. The window tracery of most restorations is not ugly because it is modern nor is the old window tracery beautiful because it is old. The difference is between work done by men who were making the most beautiful things they could in the manner most natural to them, and work done painfully and against the grain by men who would do something quite different if they followed their own instincts. Most modern tracery looks as if it were made of wood, for it is designed and carved by men who would not

naturally treat stone in that way, and who are continually cramped in whatever artistic instincts they may possess by the constraint of servile imitation. And yet it must be confessed that tracery needs to be repaired and sometimes entirely renewed. In the case of necessary structural repairs we must do the best we can, giving the architects and builders all possible freedom and only taking care not to repair except where it is absolutely necessary. But in the matter of ornament we should make up our minds either to do nothing or else to supply original work of our own time. Mere imitation, even when absolutely necessary, should be a painful necessity. No one, with the sad experience of a hundred years to teach him, ought now to be capable of supposing that it can in any circumstances add anything but ugliness to an ancient building.

Ashwell Church Tower, Herts.

Ashwell Church, which was recently visited by the Society, is a large and interesting building consisting of chancel, nave with aisles, and western tower. It appears to have been built about the middle of the fourteenth century; and, with the exception of the roofs of the nave, to a great extent has escaped "Restoration."

The tower is a most valuable example of its period. The walls, fully seven feet in thickness at the ground level, are built of flintwork, faced, internally, with clunch ashlar, and, externally, above the ground level, with clunch. The height to the top of the parapet is about 120 feet, and to the top of the lead spire, about 187 feet.

The fabric appears to be sound and free from any settlement; unfortunately the clunch on the exterior surface is badly worn and decayed by the action of the weather. At the ground level the buttresses at the angles project considerably; at the first floor level they diminish: they are continued up to the top of the belfry stage. The stone weatherings of the lower offsets are renewed with stone in an unsatisfactory manner. The faces of all the buttresses are much worn and broken away by the action of the weather. The upper stages of the tower have suffered most, and large portions of the facing are missing. Underneath the belfry openings is an ornamental band with traceried panels, much worn and obliterated.

The walls of the belfry are pierced on all four faces with two large openings, each sub-divided by a mullion supporting tracery. The lower half is filled with clunch ashlar, panelled on the surface. The mullions of several of the openings are renewed with oak in a temporary manner.

The stage above the belfry has on each face a double light opening. The pointed arches over the openings in the thickness of the walls are badly displaced, and in two of them portions have fallen away.

The top of the tower has been finished with a deep parapet, panelled on the surface; portions at the angles still remain, but, for the most part, the parapet is rebuilt with clunch.

The beautiful lead spire is supported on an octagonal lantern in the middle of the tower. The oak framing of

the lantern and the spire has been repaired recently, and the base of the lantern and the lead gutters behind the parapet releaded.

The interior of the tower appears to be in good condition, with the exception of the various floors and the bells.

The tower arch, which is wide and lofty, seems to be sound. There is, some height above the ground floor, a large west window, in good condition with the exception of the mullions, which are badly split by large iron saddle bars built in at intervals in the height. The outer half of one of the mullions has fallen out, and lies on the ground in several pieces. The glazing is of old crown glass in leaded lights, in bad repair.

It is interesting to note that the newel staircase is constructed in the south-west angle as far up as the first floor level. There, a passage is formed in the thickness of the south wall across to the south-east angle, from where the staircase is continued up to the top of the tower. The reason for discontinuing the staircase down to the ground floor in the south-east angle, was evidently to avoid weakening the wall behind the tower arch; want of care in this regard has proved in many cases the direct cause of serious trouble to the fabric. The steps of this staircase are very much worn up to the first floor level.

The first floor, from which the bells are rung, is constructed with oak beams boarded on top. The beams appear sound but the boarding is in bad condition.

The tower was at one time vaulted some distance below the first floor, and the wall ribs still exist.

The passage formed in the thickness of the south wall is at about the level of the top of the vault, above which, in the inner wall of the passage, is a series of arched openings communicating with the chamber over the vault.

The belfry contains a peal of six bells, varying in date from 1694 to 1808, hung on an old oak frame. The bells retain their "cannons." The frame unfortunately is in contact with the east and west walls. It is supported on four beams resting on the east and west walls; one of them is cut in two on account of the clock weights.

The intermediate floor between the first and belfry floors and the floor over the belfry are all in bad condition.

The Committee sincerely hopes that the repairs recommended in the report, which was made as a result of the Society's survey, will be carried out, and that nothing in the nature of "restoration" will be attempted.

The Rector has thanked the Society for the report, which, he says, will be of assistance to him in many ways.

Auld Brig of Ayr, N.B.

The preservation work in connexion with the Auld Brig of Ayr is progressing satisfactorily, and it is expected that everything will be finished before the end of the present year.

Barrington Court, Somerset.

The works, to which reference was made in the last report (page 11), have been carried out in consultation with the Society, so far as funds have permitted; local workmen being employed.

The house is built of finely wrought Ham Hill stone, on a strong foundation of a very hard local stone. The walls, with a few exceptions, were found to be in a very good condition. The roof, however, had been seriously damaged by wet, and many of the beam ends had rotted.

The large stone dormer gables rising from the main walls have their side-walls, or "cheeks," that return into the roof, built upon slabs of timber—as it were extra thick rafters. In one or two places these timbers had given way, letting the stone "cheeks" fall, which, by their weight, forced in the roof at these points. Thus the rain had been able to get at the woodwork, increasing the damage and rotting the wood wherever it had reached it.

The first bit of repair was to the south-west dormer, which had suffered in this way. The timber slabs were removed, and the "cheek" of the dormer that had given way was built up in solid masonry off the south gable wall, which, to the level of the eaves, is about five feet thick.

The dormer having been made safe at this point, the rotted tie-beam was half renewed, the roof timbers also made good, and the slating and guttering replaced.

On the inner wall of the south front, between the porch and the eastern staircase, another dormer was found to be in a dangerous state. The front wall was

cracked, the "cheeks" had parted from the front, and the timbers on which they were built had given way. Further, the oak lintel carrying the dormer front wall across a window below, had become rotten and given way, so that the dormer was in danger of collapsing at no distant date.

To remedy this the rotten parts of the lintel were cut away and two steel joists inserted to carry the dormer wall over; and then the "cheeks" were repaired and the cracks bonded across with brickwork in cement.

On examining the beams of the first floor several were found to be decayed where the ends had been built into the walls. Some of these beams are of great size, and one of them was supported by no more than two inches of solid timber, remaining at one side of it. All such ends were replaced with stout iron plates, 6in. by 1in., four feet long, bolted to the underside of the beams and going into the wall twelve inches.

In the roof, the greater number of the tie-beams had decayed at their ends, similarly to those already referred to; also the feet of the principal rafters that with the tie-beam should form the triangular roof truss. This vital connexion being broken or decayed, the structural condition of the roof was in a very bad state. In all, forty-eight beams out of fifty-six had to be attended to—some being mended with iron plates, some scarfed, some with new ends and new feet to the principal rafters.

The common rafters and smaller timbers of the roof were on the whole in fair condition. The worst were repaired; but generally they were left, and the slating

and valley gutters made secure on the outside to prevent the wet from entering again until such time as the repair of the roof can be properly undertaken, when the whole of the slating should be stripped and the timber made good for stone tiling on rent oak laths.

Some tiles were obtained and used to replace the sheets of lead between the gables on the south front, this lead having slipped from its place, and itself being an awkward and clumsy replacing of stone tiles in some previous repair.

Iron guttering was fixed to all eaves throughout, and on the front were fixed new cast lead heads and down-pipes taking the water from the roof to a new stoneware rainwater drain, starting in the north-west angle of the front court and passing across the entrance and under the great hall out to the back, there returning along the house and delivers into a new rainwater tank against the corner of the brick scullery—about twenty feet from the main building. At the back of the house iron down-pipes and rainwater heads were used.

The worst parts of the walls externally were repointed with lias lime and sand. The windows, which in many places let the wet in freely, were either mended with new lead or re-leaded entirely, and the broken glass was replaced with pieces of old glass.

All the pinnacles and carved finials were re-pointed and made secure as far as was possible from ladders: the carved finials where decayed weathered over, to turn the water off them, and where loose, refixed and steadied.

The chimney of the Great Hall on the north side of

the house was repaired with some of the old stones which were found, and with new stone worked on the spot and fitted to the old. The inside of the flues was cleaned and re-pointed down to the bottom of the twisted tuns, and in the repairing and renewing care was taken to get as good and thorough a bond as possible to supply that which had formerly been lacking. Cracks in the chimney stack below were mended and rebonded by shifting the stones so as to break joint better than was the case before.

In addition to the works which have been completed some further works are necessary, and it is hoped that the National Trust may receive the sum requisite for carrying these out at an early date.

Houses, Bath Street, Bath.

Bath Street is one of the most typical streets of this ancient city, and it is deeply to be regretted that the City Council should have given its consent to a scheme which will result in the practical destruction of the houses on one side.

The Committee addressed a letter to the City Council urging that the matter might be reconsidered, but it is to be feared that there is little probability of the houses being saved, in spite of the energetic protests which have been made. However, the contemplated destruction has moved those interested to form a Society, called the Old Bath Preservation Society, for the conservation of the buildings which give to the City so much of its interest.

The Committee has informed the founders that it will be ready to give any assistance within its power.

Bledlow Church, Bucks.

In the last report (pages 16-21), there was given a detailed account of this building, and it was stated that the Committee understood the Vicar was trying to raise the sum required to carry out the works of repair recommended by the Society.

The Vicar's efforts have been so far successful that he has felt justified in starting the works; and they are now in progress under the immediate personal direction of the architect, in consultation with the Society. It is hoped to give a description of them in the next report.

A small sum towards the cost of repair has been granted from the Society's Building Funds.

Bolsover Castle, Derbyshire.

At the request of the Agent to the owner (the Duke of Portland), this Castle was visited by a professional member on behalf of the Society, with a view of reporting on the condition of the wall paintings in the various rooms.

The building containing the paintings was erected in 1613-14 by Sir Charles Cavendish, and is supposed to occupy the site of the Norman Keep at the north-west corner of the Castle.

The paintings in the two rooms on the ground floor appear to be contemporary with the building. The hall which is finely vaulted is panelled with oak up to

the springing of the vaulting. The tympanum spaces above the panelling are filled with paintings on the surface of the plaster. They appear to be oil paintings, and are in good condition with the exception of a deposit on the surface, caused by damp. The building has not been occupied for over twenty-five years—although open to the public—and the want of fires has affected the paintings adversely.

The small room on the west side of the entrance has paintings in a similar position, but on the surface of the stone walling. The damp has affected them at the joints of the stonework and peeled off the paint, exposing a groundwork of red paint. The surface also is affected similarly to that of the paintings in the hall. The painting, at the west end of the room particularly, is badly perished over the whole surface. It appears to be of later date than the other paintings.

The paintings in the rooms on the first floor are less affected than those on the ground floor. Two small rooms have paintings on the ceilings as well as on the upper portion of the walls. The large room, with a fine plaster ceiling, known as the Star Chamber, has paintings on the oak panelling around the walls. The small room over the entrance porch, with a vaulted ceiling of marble, has four paintings on canvas, fixed in the tympanum spaces above the panelling. The damp has drawn the canvas considerably, and in one room, over the window, it has rotted and is falling away from the frame.

The Committee, in its report, gave its opinion as to the treatment of the paintings to secure their preservation.

The walls of the building appear to be strongly constructed, and the exterior masonry generally is in excellent condition. Unfortunately, recently a bad settlement has occurred, and cracks of a serious nature have appeared in the walls, floors and vaulting; that in the parapet on the north front is open to the extent of one-and-a-half inches. The working of a coal mine in the immediate neighbourhood no doubt has caused this. The movement appears to be towards the north-west, where the ground is considerably lower than the courtyard on the north-east side of the building.

The movement being still in progress the Committee recommended that at present nothing should be done beyond shoring up with timber the interior doorways above which are the cracked walls, and affixing over the cracks bands of plaster of Paris so that any further disturbance may be noted. When the building is finally at rest the cracks will need repair by cutting out the loose walling and rebonding together the solid portions, in the way usually recommended by the Society.

There are over the entrance doorway carved stone figures of Hercules and lions, which are much decayed and require treatment with lime and baryta so as to harden the stone and arrest further decay.

The buildings along the Terrace, which are in ruins owing to their being unroofed in 1740, are well worthy of careful repair and preservation. The Committee urged, even if nothing further could be done, that the tops of the walls should be seen to and rendered weather-proof. Otherwise they will soon fall into complete ruin.

Burnham Ulph Church, Norfolk.

This Church was visited recently on behalf of the Society, when it was found that unfortunately the works of "restoration" had been completed. The following abstract of our member's report is given, as it shows how a building, which at one time must have been a veritable record of the past, has bit by bit been so entirely modernised as virtually to have lost all interest, either from the historic, artistic or architectural point of view.

The Church, which appears to have been built in the thirteenth century, consists of a chancel and a nave with a south porch. Unhappily its original character and appearance have been destroyed by the following works.

As regards the chancel, some years ago the roof was renewed in pitch-pine, without any tie-beams to prevent the thrust from pushing out the walls. This roof was covered with Broseley tiles of smooth metallic texture. The two windows in the south wall were rebuilt with new stonework, and a doorway was constructed in the north wall. The internal wall-plastering is modern; the floor generally has been renewed with machine-made tiles, the Sanctuary with tessellated tiles of various colours. The seats and fittings are of pitch-pine, varnished.

As to the nave, last year a modern roof was removed and a new one of high pitch constructed of pitch-pine, with boarding of the same material, and this was

covered with Broseley tiles like those of the chancel. This roof too has no tie-beams; the north wall is considerably out of the upright and the thrust of the new roof must be a serious danger to its stability.

The flint facing on the exterior of the walls has been re-pointed with Portland cement and fine sand. The west gable retains the original thirteenth century bell turret for two bells, one of which is missing. The apex of the stone roof of this turret is disfigured by a modern stone cresting. The east gable of the nave has been heightened in consequence of the new high roof, and on its apex has been fixed a modern stone cross.

In the interior, the old wall plaster has been replaced by new, finished to an even surface. Traces of wall paintings found on the old plaster were destroyed during its removal.

The windows have been glazed with cathedral glass, and the seats and fittings are of pitch-pine, varnished.

On the north side of the nave are a vestry and a coal store, both of recent construction.

Chalton Church, Hants.

In compliance with a request received from the custodians this building was surveyed and reported upon by the Society.

The tower, with which the Society's visit was chiefly concerned, is at the west end of the nave, and stands close against the wall of the churchyard. It appears to have been built late in the thirteenth century. The

walls are of flintwork, three feet thick, with large stone quoins at the angles. The internal dimensions are about eight feet two inches by eight feet four inches, and the height is about fifty feet.

The ground of the churchyard gradually falls towards the west end, where it drops about eight feet, and this appears to have caused a settlement of the tower. For strength the west doorway is built up and a brick buttress built against the outside; there is another brick buttress built against the south-west angle, at the ground level, and this has settled away from the building.

The west wall of the tower is bulged outwards about half-way up its height, and has parted from the north and the south walls, causing serious cracks in the angles. Also it is badly cracked from the ground upwards about the middle, where a series of windows in the height have weakened the wall. The window over the west doorway is built up for strength; other two windows occur at the first floor and belfry levels. The wall is secured in a temporary fashion with iron ties, bolted to the first and belfry floors. There is also a tie-rod through the tower from east to west, secured on the outside faces.

The walls of the belfry are repaired on the outside face, and the parapets are renewed with brickwork. The belfry contains three bells in good condition. The tenor is pre-Reformation, and the treble is dated 1674. The oak bell-frame, which is in a dilapidated condition, is in contact with the walls.

The roof is in the form of a pyramid, constructed with

oak, and covered with slates. The lead gutter behind the parapet is in a bad condition and allows the wet to soak into the walls.

The state of the tower, although serious, is not hopeless, and the Committee in its report gave a detailed description of the works which, in its opinion, if carried out, would ensure its preservation.

The Church itself is a beautiful example of thirteenth century workmanship, and appears to be generally sound with the exception of the chancel. Here, owing to the absence of tie-beams in the roof, which has a span of about eighteen feet six inches, the north and south walls are being thrust outwards. The south wall is considerably out of upright and is badly cracked at its junction with the nave; the north wall is cracked from the roof downwards at the east end, and the east wall is cracked over the very beautiful four-light window.

To take up the thrust of the roof two new tie-beams of English oak, slightly cambered, should be fixed across the chancel at the level of the wall-plate, and well secured thereto. The cracks in the walls require repair, similarly to that in the tower.

The walls are thickly covered with ivy, which, wisely, has been killed by cutting the main stems at the ground level. The roots should be grubbed up, and the remains of the ivy removed.

The timber porch on the north side of the nave is a good example of fourteenth century workmanship.

The authorities decided to carry out the repairs in accordance with the recommendations of the Society and

under its direction, and they are now in progress. The Committee hope to give a description of them in the next report.

Towards the cost of the work the sum of £2 2s. has been voted from the Society's Building Fund.

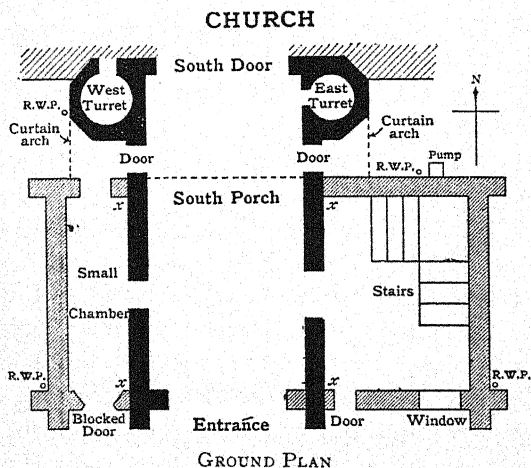
Town Hall, Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

A view of this building was given in the last report, and the Committee then stated (page 23) that it was anxiously waiting to hear the decision of the authorities with reference to its treatment.

It affords the Committee great satisfaction to report that through the courtesy of the architect the old Town Hall has been repaired in consultation with the Society.

The building consists of the south porch of the Parish Church, with a small chamber on one side and a staircase on the other, and above, over these, at the first floor level, a large room, now open to the roof (but probably formerly floored at half its height), which at one time was used as the Council Chamber of the Town Council. This chamber occupies the southern portion of the building. The northern part, that abuts upon the south wall of the Church, contains a small chamber, and a kind of gallery over it approached by a turret stair on the west. This lower small chamber communicates with the porch by an east turret, which externally is complete up to the roof, but internally has no steps above the first floor level. The west turret communicates directly with the Church, having a door into the south aisle.

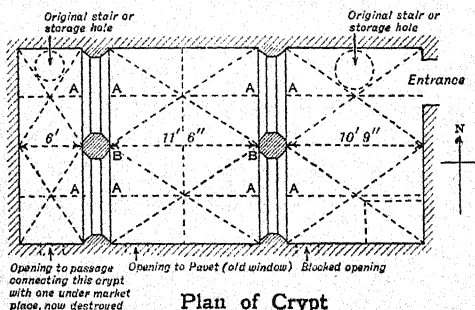
The sketch plan shows the disposition of the parts of the building—the Council Chamber being south of the dotted line. The shaded parts are later work than the dark, showing that the original building was the south porch with the two turrets, perhaps carried up with



parapets and leaded roof to the sill of the short window on the south door of the Church. No actual trace of such a roof was found, but that the adjoining chamber and staircase were built later is proved by the straight joint in all four points of their attachment to the walls of the porch (marked on the plan xxxxx).

Beneath the Old Town Hall is a crypt, its walls being under these later-added walls of the staircase and small chamber, while stout stone arches carry the side walls of the porch. The crypt is vaulted in stone, with rather

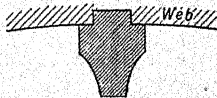
obtuse pointed arches. The vaulting is divided into three main parts, corresponding with those above, and the diagonal and transverse ribs have the appearance of being later than the arches that carry the porch walls. For example, the horizontal ridge ribs, where they run to the apex of these arches, are not finished so as to die on to them, but are butted up to them. (See "A," on plan of crypt.) The springers on the transverse ribs



Plan of Crypt

beneath the porch are apparently also let in to the piers of these same arches (see "B" on plan of crypt), and have a straight joint above, so that the vaulting of the crypt appears to be an insertion, later in date than the arches that carry the porch walls. It is probable that this was a contemporary revision. The vaulting ribs are large and simple in profile, and are cut, English fashion, to take the web, thus:—

which is very well built in thin laminated stones and plastered with a coat of pure lime about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick.



At the time when the works of repair were taken in hand, the large arches under the porch walls shewed signs of crushing, the soffits having been pinched at the joints so that two or three large pieces of stone had spalled away.

The walls of the crypt are of small stones and the joints were soft and open. These were wedged up with slates in cement and flush-pointed with lime mortar. The masonry of the north-west corner wall of the crypt appeared to be very loose and was cracked; it was found to be saturated with water arising from the pump and from the rainwater pipe outside. The defective work was all taken out and rebuilt in cement with large bonding-stones and concrete.

The vault ribs in several places had dropped slightly, and so had parted from the web. These were supported either by copper hooks let through from the concrete filling above, and down through the stones, or where the length of rib and character of the damage required it by inserting steel joists from wall to wall and from them suspending similar hooks of copper, the whole being thoroughly covered in breeze and cement concrete, and the steel joists painted.

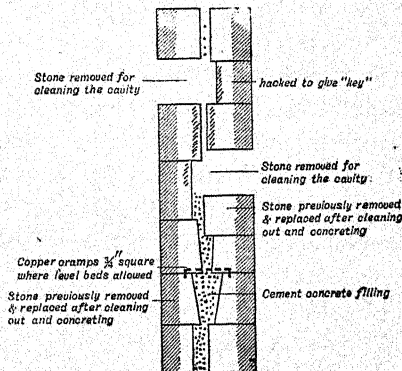
The walls over the arches being made sound, the porch walls were examined and found to be built without any bonding stones from face to face, but, as it were, with an inner and outer surface wall, filled in with lime mortar. The filling was completely dry and loose and the walls shewed many large cracks, some being as much as $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide from the top to the bottom of the walls.

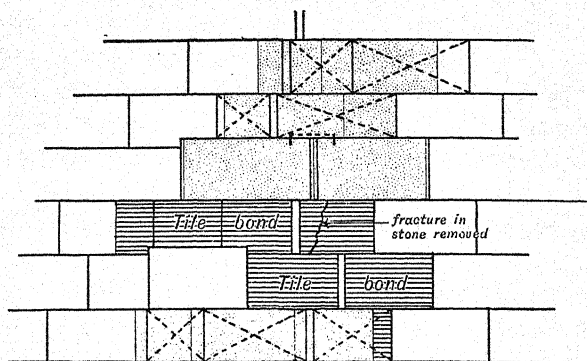
Also, the thrust of the vault of the porch had pushed out the walls about four inches on each side, and thus the vaulting stones were loosened and the arches broken.

The outer—*i.e.*, the west and east outer—faces of these porch walls, when the whitewash had been removed, showed that at one time they had been exposed to the weather.

These porch walls were repaired by removing stones at intervals from each side and cleaning out all the loose core, then thoroughly washing out the cavity and chipping over the backs of the face stones, and then filling in with cement concrete sufficiently fine to ensure its filling all cracks and interstices up to the level of the uppermost stone removed; and so on, working up and over the entire wall from the floor of the porch to the vault and wall top.

Tile bonds, twelve inches or more in depth, were inserted on the outer faces of the walls, across the cracks, and the bonding of the stone courses was altered where possible so as to bridge the cracks and form a sound bond. The following diagrams explain this:—





Sketch Elevation

Position of stones before repair of walls

Position of stones after repair of walls

Tile bond thus:-



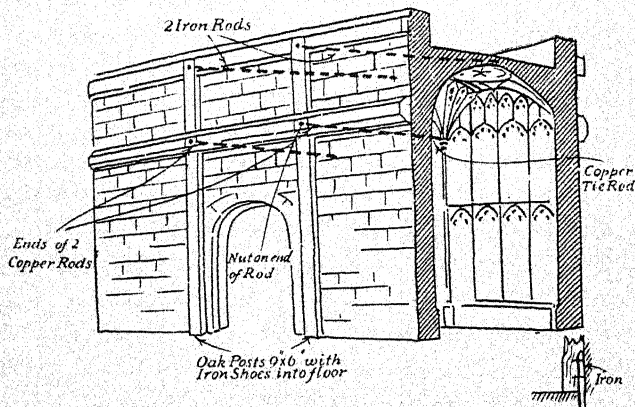
During the progress of this work the porch vault was carefully supported, and when the repairs to the walls had been finished the vault itself was taken in hand.

Examination had shewn that this had been supported—probably in 1831, when the building was largely restored—by an oak framework laid on the top of the porch walls, from which depended iron hooks passing through the vault stones and thus hanging them to the framing. It was found that this framing was pressing on the crown of the vault, and that in some places the floor joists of the Council Chamber were in turn resting on the framework. The method of support of 1831 was adopted and strengthened, the framing raised clear of the vault, and the floor joists re-arranged so as not to rest anywhere but on the walls.

Steel joists from wall to wall were made use of to

support the oak framework, three being laid across above it—in the thickness of the floor joists—and the framework hung from them in much the same way as the stonework had been hung from the framing. Additional copper hooks were used as support to any stones that required it. The joints, stoppings and pointing of the vault were all cleaned out and refilled with lime mortar; in the very large joints, small pieces of tile were used. The back of the vault and all the open joints were washed thoroughly clean before repointing; and, finally, the pockets of the vaults were filled with breeze-concrete.

The side walls of the porch were further supported by a framework of oak beams outside the walls, tied together by two hardened copper rods, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches square at the springing level of the vault; while above the vault two round iron rods, one inch in diameter, connected two oak plates, nine inches by nine inches.



The copper rods were then painted stone colour and the floor above relaid with screws to prevent jarring the new pointing.

At the same time as the work of repairing the crypt and porch was proceeding, the three oriel windows on the south front and the parapet were being mended and replaced.

Examination of the windows had shown that they were built on large strong corbels, of which the inner ends were flush with the inside of the wall. Above these the oriels are built up to the glass level in thin panelling stones, about seven or eight inches thick, with broader string courses at intervals. The windows themselves show three faces, and have stout angle mullions, and small inter-mullions crossed with transoms, and, at the half way, with a broad band of quatrefoil work, this being the space between the windows necessitated by the floor dividing the original lower and the upper small chambers, alluded to above.

At five different levels in the whole height of each window had been built a cross bar of iron passing through every mullion, and at either end bedded deep into the walls, the ends themselves turned down cramp fashion, the three lengths being connected by a great hook and eye joint at each angle mullion. These irons had corroded very much, bursting the stonework away from them and causing much dilapidation to the mullions. The mullions were mended with hand-made plain red roofing tiles in cement, and, where possible, portions of the stonework which had split off were re-used.

In order to obviate the recurrence of similar damage all the iron stanchions and cross bars, where they entered the stonework, were spliced with copper, which at once preserved the old iron bars and stanchions—greatly to the advantage of the appearance of the building from the street—and made an efficient and strong tie round every oriel window, for the tie was continued as before and bedded in the main walls.

At the old floor level, just over the head of the lower half of the oriels, a band of iron had been built in, and this had burst off all the stonework inside the window. The iron was entirely removed from all three windows and replaced by copper in the central window only. Tile lintel-ties were carried across all the oriels at this level. The work at this point became very difficult and dangerous, in the central window especially; but it was accomplished without any crack or settlement. Two bands of tiles were carried round each oriel inside, cutting as deeply into the walls of the oriels as their thickness permitted without shewing on the face.

The walls below the glass level were cramped, repaired, and strengthened, while over the whole area of the south wall, including the three oriels, was built a tile lintel twelve inches deep the ends returning eight feet into the end walls, thus tying back the south wall to the main building.

All broken mullions and tracery were cut out and rebuilt in tile-work in cement, the tiles being cut to the profile of the moulded stones.

Other parts of the front wall, such as the bonding of

the buttresses, were found to be defective, and these were dealt with severally.

The entire parapet had been removed previously to the Society taking the case in hand, and the stones were stacked in the churchyard beneath the tower. No key was obtainable as to the meaning of the numbers, partly obliterated and many in duplicate, which marked the various pieces; so that the whole had to be reconstructed from the existing stone sill and from a large and clear photograph taken twelve or fifteen years ago. By means of this photograph stones were identified—even by tiny sand holes and other unevennesses of surface—and finally with great patience on the part of the workmen, practically every stone was replaced in its original position. In a few cases, the stones were so badly broken that they had to be made good with tiles in cement, plastered; and a few single mullions were replaced with new stone.

Where the stones were short in length, tiles were used to build up to them; and copper dowels and cramps, and slate dowels, were freely used. Two copper rods were built in to support the north-east pinnacle, and two stone buttresses were built across the gutter behind the parapet on the south front, to strengthen it. Some of the pinnacles were badly broken, and were mended with cement concrete; and copper dowels were used in replacing crockets, etc.

The turret stairs were carefully examined and repointed and the joints cramped where necessary. The curtain arches abutting on these turrets had iron ties bedded

over them in the walls that form the ends of the dais in the Council Chamber, with similar results to those in the case of the oriel windows. These irons were cut out and tile bonds inserted from the inner face of the turrets to twelve inches into the walls of the Town Hall.

The timbers of the roof were examined and the roof itself tied back to the framing of the north wall by iron rods and by irons bolted to the posts and plates of the gallery. The lead roof was repaired, and the gutter on the south front taken up and relaid.

Finally, to protect the external surface of the stonework, it was given three coats of baryta-water, the last being mixed with lime, a little colouring matter being added to temper the hard white effect which would obtain until the work had become weathered.

A stone inscription commemorating the work is to be placed in the Town Hall.

Bells, Cogenhoe Church, Northants.

This is one of the very rare cases in which the Society's offer to visit and advise has been declined.

The Committee's attention was called to a report in the Parish Magazine, made by a firm of bell-hangers, in which it was suggested that the bells should be rehung in an iron frame on steel supporting girders.

The Society's experience of iron bell-frames supported on steel girders let into the walls is that they are detrimental not only to the structural condition of the towers

in which they are placed, but also to the tone of the bells; and this it pointed out to the Rector and asked his permission for a professional member to inspect the bells and report to the Society.

In reply the Rector asked for the name of our informant, and on being told that it was a rule of the Society not to give the names of its correspondents, he declined to afford the facilities necessary.

However, within ten days of this, the Society's informant expressed a wish that his name should be given, and accordingly this was done. The Rector then stated that he was afraid it was too late, as his Committee thought that as they had already decided what was to be done and made arrangements for the work to be begun, it was useless to take further advice.

The Committee deeply regrets the position taken up by the Rector; it would have seemed but natural that he would have been ready to consider suggestions bearing on so important a subject.

The function of a well constructed bell-frame is to prevent the vibration from the swinging of the bells being transmitted to the walls, and consequently whenever a frame is in direct contact with the walls this function is frustrated.

Within recent years some bellhangers have adopted a practice of fixing the frames into the walls; *and it is this practice which has been the cause of serious damage to many ancient towers.* The process of destruction, however, progresses more or less gradually, according to the initial strength of the fabric, and in some cases it may

be years even before the damage becomes sufficiently noticeable to attract the attention of the custodians of the fabrics.

Bell-frames in England should be constructed of English oak, which when freely exposed to the air lasts for centuries; and, as there is usually plenty of ventilation in a belfry, the oak there soon becomes thoroughly seasoned and very hard. For this reason alone an old oak frame if carefully repaired may be expected to last longer than a new frame of iron or steel.

With regard to iron or steel joists for supporting bell-frames, there is an additional reason against their use. Iron or steel joists are too rigid for such a purpose, and, when used, transmit the vibration into the walls instead of distributing it within themselves, as oak beams are known to do.

In nearly every instance which has come under the Society's notice where an iron or steel frame has been adopted, not only the safety of the fabric has been ignored, but the old bells either have been recast, or have been mutilated by the removal of the cannons in re-hanging.

Donington Church, Lincs.

In the last report (pages 23-26) it was stated that this building had been surveyed by the Society and that the bellringers much wished for another bell in the peal, to make six in all, and that they also desired to remove the oak frame and substitute one of iron.

The Committee is relieved to be able to report that the idea of an iron frame was abandoned and that the bells were rehung in an oak frame, with, however, the addition of a treble bell. The old oak frame, which was fixed diagonally across the belfry, was removed and a new frame for six bells constructed, using as far as possible the oak of the old frame and supplementing it with new seasoned oak. This frame has been fixed on four new oak beams, and the bells rehung with new fittings complete.

The Committee did not think it desirable that a new bell should be added, but it considers, under the circumstances, it is satisfactory that the Society should have succeeded in inducing the custodians of the building not to allow an iron frame, supported on steel girders, to be introduced.

Dymchurch Church, Kent.

The Committee learnt that it was proposed to "thoroughly restore" this Church, and arranged for a professional member to visit the building. The Church was originally a small Norman edifice, with nave and chancel. Of this building there remains the chancel walls, with "restored" small Norman windows; the south wall of the nave, with inserted large two-light pointed windows with wooden frames and crown glass; a south Norman doorway with ornamented arch; part of the west wall with Norman doorway and ornamented arch; and a Norman arch between the chancel and the nave. Probably about the sixteenth century a small

west porch was erected, and on the top of this there was built, in 1625, a small timber belfry, in which are three bells of that date.

In 1821 the entire north wall of the nave was pulled down and the nave widened by about fifteen feet, a new one-span slate covered roof being put over the whole and a south porch added, or rebuilt, also with a slated roof.

A plan, drawn up by an architect for the restoration of the building, hung in the Church at the time of our member's visit; and, if this plan were carried into effect, there would remain but little of the present Church.

The Committee has had some correspondence with the Rector, and he has informed the Society that the idea of putting an arcade into the Church has virtually been abandoned, owing to prohibitive cost; and that, for the present, work will be confined chiefly to the preservation of the Norman chancel arch, which has badly settled. The Committee hopes this means that the suggested plan for "restoring" the Church has been given up, and that the repairs necessary for the preservation of the building—which were enumerated in our member's report, a copy of which was sent to the Rector—will be carried out.

Eton College, Windsor.

Some works of repair to the stonework of the upper storey of the College Houses, round the two sides of the cloisters, have recently been carried out in consultation

with the Society under the personal supervision of the architect.

First, portions of the walls were treated with lime and baryta, so as to judge the effect and the appearance resulting from the treatment.

After the erection of a detached scaffold, the surface of the walls was brushed down, and the stone where badly decayed was cut away and the gaps filled in with hand-made tiles set and fixed into grooves cut into the sound stone, with mortar composed of blue lias lime and sharp Thames sand. The joints of the stone were carefully cleaned out and re-pointed with similar mortar.

After the completion of these repairs, the surface of the stone was treated with several coats of baryta water, well worked in with brushes, which hardens it and arrests decay. After the stone had thoroughly dried from the effects of the baryta treatment, as a further protection, two additional coats of lias lime and baryta mixed together were applied. This fills up the pores of the stone and prevents the penetration of the wet and gases.

Finally, the surface was brushed over with a coat of lime toned with colour, to relieve the white effect of the preceding coats. It is hoped that the lower portion of the walls enclosing the cloisters may have similar treatment.

The stone of the two piers and buttresses supporting the arches is decayed to a serious degree, and should be repaired without loss of time, before it is too late to save what still remains of the old work.

Exeter Cathedral.

The following letter appeared in the "*Times*" of 17th May, 1909:

To the Editor of the "Times."

SIR,—On July 13th, 1907, you published a report on Exeter Cathedral made by a sub-committee of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. As I was Chairman of that Committee I feel it to be my duty to inform your readers that the renewal of the most beautiful niche and canopy work of the west front is being continued.

A few weeks ago, when the Cathedral was visited again, hardly any of the fourteenth century canopies were left, most of them having been cut out and cast aside in favour of journeyman copies in a coarse yellow stone which—apart from considerations of authenticity—curiously destroy the harmony and scale of the once ancient front.

This front used to have some mystery of majesty: now it seems dwarfed and shrivelled up. As our report stated, the old niche work was "of the finest white stone, admirably sculptured, and with expressions of delicacy and finish that claim for the work the highest place in medieval craftsmanship." The unity of the front has been destroyed, but I write less of this than to urge that even now such specimen pieces as remain of this great work of art wrought by Englishmen in the age of Chaucer shall be saved. Three architects on the sub-committee were unanimously of opinion that, history and art being waived aside, the chopping out of the great ancient stones was doing damage to the structure.

Surely the Dean and Chapter have now done enough. It would be less injurious to the building and a less violent exercise of power if they cut their names in great letters across the front. Can it be that they do not clearly realise that this "restoration" is their work?

The ancient west front of Exeter Cathedral is a national treasure of greater importance than even the magnificent Holbein at the National Gallery, and it is right for the public to know that its legal custodians are destroying it.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. B. RICHMOND.

May 14th.

Fincham Church, Norfolk.

In compliance with a request from the authorities this building was surveyed by the Society.

The Church, which appears to have been built in the fifteenth century, consists of a chancel about 33 feet long by 19 feet wide, with a sacristy on the north side used as a vestry; a nave 63 feet 6 inches long by 20 feet 6 inches wide, with north and south aisles 9 feet 5 inches and 9 feet 10 inches wide respectively; a south porch and a western tower. The lower stage of the tower appears to have been built in the fourteenth century and to have been incorporated in the rebuilding of the church.

The chancel retains its original steep-pitched roof, constructed of oak, with hammer-beam principals. The ends of the hammer-beams appear to have rotted, and under them are inserted tie-beams, in an unhappy manner, with jack legs and struts, and these are lime-washed. The roof is covered with cast lead, resting on oak boarding; the lead is in bad repair.

The walls which are of flintwork plastered externally

and internally, appear to be sound, with the exception of the facing at the ground level which is loose and displaced. The stone weathering and the cross on the east gable are modern, and the parapets appear to have been renewed.

The nave retains its original steep-pitched roof of hammer-beam construction, covered with cast lead very much worn and patched. The ends of the hammer-beams resting on the wall have rotted away and are supported on oak corbels with jack legs and struts underneath. The hammer-beams are finely carved to represent angels and demons. Unfortunately parts are cut away where the new corbels support them.

The timbers of the roof appear to be fairly sound, but owing to its weak construction the thrust has pushed out considerably the south wall. There are inserted three iron tie-rods, with cast iron plates on the outside of the north and south walls, and they appear to have arrested the movement. The south wall, over the nave arcades is badly broken and displaced, especially at the west end. The north wall is slightly displaced and at the west end is cracked.

The south aisle retains the main timbers of its original roof, most of the rafters are renewed with deal. This roof is covered with cast lead—in bad condition—on deal boarding.

The south wall of the aisle bulges outwards and at the west end is badly cracked. The flint facing at the ground level is loose and displaced, and some of the buttresses are cracked from the ground upwards. They

are carried up above the parapet with pinnacles which some years ago had the top portions renewed.

The roof of the south porch is covered with cast lead in good condition—recast in 1852. The walls appear to be in good repair.

The north aisle has a deal roof covered with cast lead in fair repair. The walls seem to be sound, with the exception of the facing at the ground level, which is loose and displaced.

The tower is apparently in fair condition, with the exception of the newel staircase and buttress on the south-east angle which are badly displaced and broken by the thrust of the tower arch. The staircase is formed in the thickness of the wall and cuts away the abutment of the arch. The stone newel and steps are broken from the ground upwards.

The belfry contains a light peal of six bells, recast in 1844. They are hung on an old oak frame which is in bad condition and at one point is in contact with the tower. The chamber underneath contains the works of an old clock, which are in a good state. The roof of the tower is covered with cast lead which generally is sound with the exception of two sheets which have crept downwards and are patched at their junction with those above. There is no cover-flashing where the lead turns up against the inside of parapet, to prevent the wet penetrating. The weather-vane is in good preservation. The arrangement for fixing a flagstaff at the south-west angle to the parapet is liable to cause displacement of the masonry.

The exterior flint facing throughout the building is in bad repair and allows the wet to penetrate. The rain-water is collected into down pipes which discharge on to a channelled stone and thence into the earth, and this has softened the ground under the walls. The interior surface of the walls appears to be in good condition. The fittings are modern, with the exception of the chancel screen and the font, which are of interest.

It is a matter of satisfaction to the Committee to be able to report that the Church authorities have decided to carry out the necessary repairs in accordance with the recommendations contained in a report which the Society forwarded to them, and the works will shortly be taken in hand.

This is a case which the Committee can strongly recommend to the members of the Society for support.

Finedon Church Tower and Bells, Northants.

This interesting building was visited by the Society, at the request of the Vicar.

The tower, with its lofty spire, stands at the west end and appears to have been built slightly earlier than the church itself, which probably dates from the fourteenth century. The walls are about five feet six inches thick, and are faced with a local sandstone of rich colour. The arch from the tower into the church is filled in with a brick partition, backing the west gallery and organ.

The bells are rung from a gallery over the ground floor. The first floor contains the works of the clock. The

belfry contains a peal of eight bells, of which six are hung on an oak frame. Two were added recently, and at the same time the third and fourth bells were hung on steel joists built into the west and east walls above the oak frame. The old peal was recast in 1875.

The oak frame is supported by four oak beams, dated 1774, which rest on the east and west walls immediately under the belfry openings. The frame stands free of the walls, but owing to its weak construction the vibration from the ringing of the bells causes it to rack considerably. To counteract this wedges have been driven in between the head of the frame and the walls, with the result that vibration is transmitted to the tower. This has caused serious damage to the masonry. The hanging of the third and fourth bells to steel joists built into the walls further imperils the safety of the tower and spire by throwing directly upon them vibration, which if the bells were properly hung to a framed cage would be absorbed before it reached the masonry.

The great strain which the tower has been subjected to lately by these defects may be seen in the condition of the walls. From the first floor upwards the west and east walls are badly cracked through their thickness, and so is the north wall over the eastmost opening of the belfry.

The belfry windows are very high and cut the walls into narrow piers. The jambs of the openings have bulged in their height, and shew that the weight of the superstructure has proved too great for their capacity.

The walls around the stone staircase in the south-west

angle, from the ground up to the first floor, as well as the walls around the staircase in the north-east angle which continues from the first floor up to the belfry are cracked, disturbed and displaced to a serious degree. The exterior buttresses to the angles of the tower are cracked vertically, from the ground upwards.

Turning again to the bell-frame, its weakness is due to the overcrowding of the bells. The head of the frame at the tenor and seventh bell is carried up some distance above the general level to obtain swinging space, and for this reason too, the division between the two pits is omitted, which also is the case between the pits of the fifth and fourth bells. Recently an attempt was made to strengthen the frame by fixing angle irons at the junctions of the head and by bolting the frame to the beams underneath, but this has not proved successful.

The Society, in its report, urged that on no account should the bells be rung until the cracks in the walls should have been repaired and the bells re-hung in a satisfactory manner, as in default very great risk would be run of imperilling the stability of the fabric. It also set forth the works which it considered indispensable for securing the safety of the tower and spire.

A wish had been expressed by the bellringers that the whole of the eight bells should be crowded into an iron frame. It may be possible to do this, but the Committee, knowing from experience the great damage resulting to the fabric of steeples from the use of such frames, owing to their rigidity in comparison with oak frames, recommended that a bellframe of seasoned

English oak should be provided, and that the two extra bells should be hung on a frame constructed over this bellframe, provided it is found possible to do so without endangering the stability of the tower. Failing this, the Committee urged that they should be hung on a separate frame and only used for chiming.

The Vicar has informed the Society that the parish is not able to raise funds sufficient for the re-hanging of the bells in accordance with the Society's report, but that they are careful not to ring the bells for the present, and only chime them.

Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.

The works in progress at Glastonbury Abbey were recently inspected on behalf of the Society, and the Committee considers that the repairs which so far have been carried out at the ruins are necessary for their preservation. It cannot help feeling, however, that the more the use of new freestone is abstained from in such works the more harmonious is the final result, as dressed ashlar strikes a discordant note, which with undressed stone is not the case.

The Committee feels also that the introduction of architectural treatment in the repair of ruins is incongruous; and, in Glastonbury Abbey, it would instance as an example the case of the ashlar introduced in the new work built to give the much needed support to the south-east tower pier.

Godalming Church, Surrey.

Some works of repair have recently been carried out at this Church under the personal direction of the architect in consultation with the Society.

The roofs, which are covered with hand-made tiles, were thoroughly examined. That of the chapel on the north side of the chancel, and the east slope of the north transept roof, had to be stripped of the tiles, which were badly perished. The battens and the eaves fillets were repaired where necessary, and the sound old tiles re-fixed, supplemented with new hand-made tiles. The new and old tiles were mixed indiscriminately, except at the eaves, where a few courses of new tiles were fixed to commence with. The oak laths on the roof of the chancel were found to have rotted for a distance of about five feet from the eaves, which necessitated stripping the tiles and renewing the laths. On the north side the rafters projected beyond the wall considerably and prevented proper access to the lead gutter between the roofs. This projection has been reduced and a new oak tilting fillet provided in place of the old one, which was decayed.

The tiles along the middle portion of the eaves of the north aisle had to be stripped and rehung, owing to their loose condition.

The ridges of the roofs were covered with machine-made tiles and high perforated cresting of conspicuous colour and pattern. They have been removed and replaced by a plain half-round tile, hand-made and of

good colour, which together with the new tiles used were manufactured by Mr. Mitchell of Littleton Brickyard, near Guildford.

The old windows in the transepts and the north and south aisles of the chancel are built with clunch, which owing to the action of the gases in the atmosphere was rapidly perishing. They have been carefully repaired and repointed, and the exposed surfaces of the clunch treated with lime and baryta, to arrest the decay and harden the face.

The clunch of the quoins of the angles and buttresses has been treated similarly and the whole toned with colour to relieve the effect resulting from the treatment.

Apparently owing to a settlement in the north wall of the chancel, the eastern respond of the arcade had yielded to the thrust of the arch and broken off a portion of the clunch on the face of the pier of the respond. The damage had been repaired some years ago with Keene's cement and thin pieces of clunch, but these had become displaced and endangered the stability of the cap above, the front portion of which was left unsupported. After shoring up the cap and the arch above the face of the respond was repaired and strengthened by the insertion of new pieces of clunch well bonded into the solid portion of the respond.

A large vault is constructed against the east wall of the aisle and the north wall of the chancel, and probably this was responsible for the settlement. In the event of any further settlement it would be necessary to open the vault and examine the foundations of the chancel and

aisle walls, and if necessary underpin them down to a solid foundation below the level of the vault.

Portions of the plaster on the walls inside the north and south aisles of the chancel which had perished have been repaired.

*Old Manor House, Halford, Shipston-on-Stour,
Warwickshire.*

A report reached the Society to the effect that it was proposed to make additions to this interesting old Manor House, and, as a result of some correspondence, the owner's agent very kindly met a representative of the Society at the building.

The house, which is L-shaped, seems to have been built at two periods. The earlier portion, which faces east, has stone walls to the ground floor and half-timber and plaster walls above. It appears to have been built about the middle of the sixteenth century. The portion which faces north is wholly constructed of stone, and is probably a century later in date.

It is in contemplation to convert the house, which had been unoccupied for about eighteen months prior to the Society's visit, into a shooting and hunting box; and in doing this it was proposed to entirely re-build the older portion of the building.

The agent promised to consider any alternative the Society might suggest for dealing with the house in order to fit it for the purpose named. Accordingly a scheme was prepared which, while providing for the

accommodation needed, would allow of the greater portion of the older building being retained, and this at the present time is receiving the agent's attention.

Hanborough Church, Oxon.

As mentioned in the last report (pages 33-35), the Rector is anxious to raise the necessary funds for the repair of this Church and to have the work carried out under the Society's supervision. In response to a printed appeal a considerable portion of the sum needed has been obtained; and the Committee earnestly hopes that the balance required will shortly be forthcoming, so that the building, with its beautiful screens, may be put into a proper structural condition without delay.

Heston Church, Middlesex.

Some works to the tower of this Church and to the lych gate have been carried out recently, in consultation with the Society, under the supervision of the architect, whose assistant directed the workmen.

Owing to insufficiency of funds it was only possible to deal with the upper portion of the tower, the work needed being the repair and preservation of the exterior facing. The stone, which is "Kentish rag," had badly perished on the surface, owing to the action of the gases in the atmosphere.

A hanging scaffold was arranged from poles fixed across the top of the tower, and this was lowered or

raised as required by means of ropes attached to pulley blocks. The facing was carefully cleaned and all loose portions removed from its surface. The beds and joints were cleaned out and re-pointed with lime mortar.

Portions of the stone jambs and heads of the belfry windows were found to be missing, or replaced with Roman cement, which had become loosened from the stone. They have been replaced with pieces of hand-made tiles cut to the required shapes, bonded into grooves cut at intervals in the solid stone and finished on the surface with mortar. At the completion of the repair and re-pointing, the surface of the stonework was treated with several applications of lime and baryta, the final coat being toned with colour.

The lych gate, which is constructed with oak and covered with hand-made tiles, has been carefully repaired and strengthened in position. On the removal of the tiles from the roof, several of the main timbers were found to be pieced-out in a temporary manner. All the timbers have been carefully examined and repaired with old seasoned oak scarfed and bolted on to the solid portions. An iron tie has been inserted across the head of the opening to bond together the two posts supporting the roof. The missing sprocket pieces and eaves fillets have been replaced at the feet of the rafters, and the old tiles re-hung on rent oak laths. The gate, which swings on a central pivot, has been carefully repaired and re-hung with a weight and pulley arrangement above for keeping the gate closed.

The small wicket gates on each side of the lych gate

have been repaired and rearranged for support to the lych gate. The feet of the posts of the wicket, where buried in the ground, had rotted on the surface. They have been strengthened with iron plates bolted on two faces of the post above the ground level and bedded in a concrete foundation.

Holyrood Abbey, N.B.

In November last a letter from Mr. Samuel Cowan, J.P., "Member of Restoration Committee," appeared in the *Spectator*, in which it was urged that this matter should be reopened and the Chapel Royal "restored." The Society replied to this letter and pointed out how impossible it was to restore the building to its original condition, and that any attempt to do so would result in the practical destruction, so far as its artistic, historical, and architectural value are concerned, of the ancient work which now remains.

This resulted in some direct correspondence between Mr. Cowan and the Society, which was eventually published in the *Scotsman*, together with other letters. At the conclusion of the correspondence a leading article appeared in the *Scotsman*, which was entirely favourable to the Society's point of view.

The Committee is satisfied that no further attempts are likely to be made to bring about the "restoration" of the Chapel Royal, for the £40,000, conditionally bequeathed by the late Lord Leven and Melville for the purpose, has been paid over to those who, under the

terms of the Will, were entitled to it: and they have decided to devote the money to the erection of a Chapel for the Order of the Thistle, in connexion with St. Giles's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

Honeychurch Church, Devonshire.

The last report (pages 38-39) gave a description of this building and it stated that the Rector-Designate, in acknowledging the receipt of the report which had been made by the Society, said that affairs with regard to his appointment were unsettled, but that when arrangements had been concluded he would communicate again, and that in the meantime he would study the various points in the report.

It is with regret that the Committee has heard recently from the Rector-Designate that matters are no nearer motion than mentioned in the last report, and that he is not yet Rector of Honeychurch.

The Committee trusts it may be found possible to overcome the difficulty at an early date, for it is most desirous that the repairs which are necessary for the preservation of this interesting building should be carried out without delay, as the longer they are deferred the greater will be the amount of new work required, which will not only entail a corresponding increase in cost but, what is of greater moment, will cause more serious interference with those qualities which give to the Church the charm it now possesses.

Ifield Court, Kent.

A letter appeared in the public press to the effect that this building, which is situated three miles south of Gravesend, was in danger of mutilation, if not of destruction.

In this letter it was stated that the north front of the court was composed of plain uninteresting stock brick buildings about a century old, but that the south front consisted of old Gothic buildings with thick rubble walls, massive buttresses, octagonal turret, and tile roofs, which were evidently the remains of some monastic establishment of the Middle Ages. Further, that the house had been untenanted for about twenty years, but that recently a farmer had taken the large farm attached to it, and was about to put the house into habitable repair, his intention being to demolish about half of the ancient buildings and build new stock brick rooms in their place. As a result of this letter the Committee communicated with the Solicitors to the Estate, but only received a formal acknowledgment from them. However, a correspondent visited the buildings, and it was found that the ancient portions had been practically demolished — one buttress of stone at the south-east angle only being left.

The Committee understands that this work was carried out under the direction of an architect, and it is lamentable to think that such an act of vandalism should be possible in the present day, for doubtless any difficulty there could have been in making the buildings fit for

modern requirements could have been overcome, or at least the entire destruction of valuable ancient work avoided.

Inglesham Church, Wilts.

Notes on this building have appeared in the reports on many occasions, and the Society has been instrumental in raising the greater portion of the money expended, from time to time, in carrying out repairs to the church.

A new Vicar was appointed recently, and at his request a report has been made upon the condition of the building at the present time.

Although the Church is in much the same condition as when it was last examined, there are several works of repair required. In addition, a Gurney stove of sufficient capacity to warm the building is needed. The approximate cost of these works is estimated at £250.

The Committee feels sure that the Vicar is fully alive to the great value of the building, and it hopes that whatever is done will be in accordance with the Society's report and under its direction, for it cannot believe anything will be permitted which is contrary to the advice given by the Society.

Mont Orgueil Castle, Jersey.

In June of last year the guardianship of Mont Orgueil Castle, Jersey, was handed over, by the Crown, to the Jersey States. At the request of the Société Jersiaise, who had promised to assist the States Committee by

raising funds to carry out the necessary repairs, the Castle was surveyed and reported upon by this Society.

The Castle is of great historical, architectural, and artistic interest. It stands on a lofty rock overlooking the sea, which lies to the south, and has on the north and west the small fishing village of Gorey. The approach is by rising ground behind the village. There is a series of four gateways gradually leading up to the entrance of the keep. The keep, which occupies the summit of the rock, is attributed to Robert, Duke of Normandy. The parts on the front facing the sea have every appearance of Norman workmanship, especially the Crypt of St. Mary's Chapel with its massive piers of masonry supporting the simple vaulting.

The circular portion of the keep, facing inland, appears to have been added at a later period. Above the entrance doorway is an inscription with the date 1551, which is probably the date of the building. The window openings on the south-west side bear out the suggestion.

The oldest part of the Castle is probably the ruins known as "Cæsar's Fort," near the base of the rock on the east side. Another early portion is the vaulted crypt of St. George's Chapel, situated on the lower ground, outside the keep, on the south-west side. It appears to be slightly later in date than the crypt of St. Mary's Chapel. Unfortunately there is only one half of the vaulting remaining.

The buildings, although not in a perilous condition, call for careful attention. In its report the Society

enumerated the works required for preservation, and described the manner in which they should be carried out.

The Honorary Secretary of the Société Jersiaise informed the Committee that the report had been approved by his Society and by the Public Works Committee of the Jersey States, and that he had been desired to transmit to this Society the thanks of the Société Jersiaise and of the States Committee for the great assistance given them. Also he informed the Committee that it was intended to publish the report; and, further, that the works of repair were proceeding satisfactorily.

It is a matter of gratification to the Committee that the Society should have been able to render assistance to public bodies taking such a keen interest in the preservation of the antiquities of their State.

*London, Sir Robert Geffery's Almshouses,
Kingsland Road, Shoreditch.*

The Committee regrets to have to report that the question of the removal of these Almshouses has been re-opened.

The Ironmongers' Company have appealed to the Law Courts to over-ride the decision of the Charity Commissioners, which it is argued they can do under the terms of a decision of a suit instituted in the year 1707, and technically still pending. The Courts have allowed the claim and have ordered that an Enquiry shall be held.

It is very important that the Societies who opposed

the removal of the Almshouses at the Enquiry held by the Charity Commissioners should be represented at this Enquiry, as the case is of great importance, inasmuch as the decision of the Charity Commissioners was favourable to the view for which the Societies have fought, *viz.*, that the Commissioners were not precluded from considering questions of public policy in these cases. An effort is being made, therefore, to raise funds so that the Societies may be legally represented at the Enquiry. The Committee will be grateful for any subscriptions towards this object.

The Old Palace, Maidstone, Kent.

This building, reference to which was made in the last report (pages 47-49), was visited again by the Society, when its representative was courteously met by the Borough Surveyor, who explained the work which was being carried out.

The roofs of the main building have had the tiles stripped and rehung on sawn fir battens. During the work it was discovered that, over the rooms at the south end of the western front, there existed underneath the present pitched roof, the original flat roof. This is of massive construction, with moulded oak beams and rafters in good condition. It is hoped at some future date to remove the modern boarded ceiling and to expose the roof.

The portion of the building at the north end of the river front was being treated in the following manner:—The north wall, which contained several original fifteenth

century windows, had been pulled down and was being rebuilt. The stonework of the old windows on the ground floor had been carefully reset, but that of the two on the first floor, which was badly decayed, was being replaced by new, with the exception of the heads and one jamb stone. On the west front, the parapet with the moulded coping and string course also has been renewed in stone, and it is proposed to continue this treatment round the north front, in place of the brick coping which existed.

The rebuilding of the north wall, with the consequent removal of the first floor windows and parapet, is much to be regretted. Had the work been carried out under expert supervision, in accordance with the Society's report, the Committee is confident that the old work could have been saved, and the fabric put into thorough repair without this rebuilding.

The Committee has sent to the Town Council a copy of the report made as a result of its second visit. In this it is pointed out that, in dealing with the preservation of the decayed stone on the exterior of the walls, to arrest further decay and preserve all the features of ornament that still exist, it is essential that the work should be undertaken as soon as possible, and under the direction of someone who has had experience of such work.

Malmesbury Abbey, Wiltshire.

The attention of the Committee was called to a printed appeal for funds to carry out further works to Malmesbury Abbey. In this, under a heading, "What we want to do,"

appears a list of proposals, and the Committee felt constrained to point out that some of the items were contrary to the Society's principles. To give examples:—Scraping the yellow ochre off the walls and pillars ought not to be permitted, as such a process destroys the original tool marks on the stone. The removal of colour wash can be effected, without damage to the surface of the stonework, by the use of a stiff brush, if necessary, assisted by warm water.

The proposal to rebuild the cloisters, if carried into effect, would be a work of unalloyed "restoration"; and in the opinion of the Committee the rebuilding of the west front would be justifiable only if the new work obviously shewed that it did not aim at reproducing what might once have existed; for, as the Society believes, the original design of the ancient work is quite unknown.

The suggestion that a large rose window should be inserted in the east wall, also should not be adopted, for such a window would dominate the whole design of the building, and would make such a glaring change in the abbey as to be a misfortune.

Merstham Church, Surrey.

With the consent of the authorities this church was visited on behalf of the Society. It consists of a western tower; nave, with aisles; chancel, with north and south chapels; two modern vestries

on the north side of the nave, and an ancient south porch.

The whole building is a fine mass, exceptionally well situated, but it has suffered somewhat from "restoration." However, it still possesses much of interest and is well worthy of conservative treatment. The only serious structural defect visible is a "cripple" high up on the north side of the chancel arch.

The church is built almost entirely of Reigate firestone, which is rapidly decaying, just as it has at Westminster Abbey where it was so largely used. Up to the present the mischief has not penetrated far into the stone.

In its detailed report the Committee fully set forth the works of preservation necessary; and it is now able to state that the custodians have determined to act in accordance with the advice given. The repairs are to be carried out under the constant personal direction and supervision of an architect nominated by the Society, acting in consultation with it, and will shortly be taken in hand.

Newark Castle, Port Glasgow.

A short time ago the owner of Newark Castle, Sir Hugh Shaw-Stewart, Bart., was approached by a local shipbuilding company with a view to their acquiring the site of the ruins for the purpose of extending their yard. As this project entailed the demolition of the castle, which is a valuable example of Scottish castellated

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estic architecture, the Society addressed to the owner
tter entreating him that he would refrain from
ding to so deplorable a proposition. Similar appeals
e made by other Societies. The Committee has the
test satisfaction in recording that Sir Hugh Shaw-
art not only declined to enter into negotiations
lving the destruction of the castle; but, further, that
etermined to hand over the castle to H.M. Office of
ks, whereby ensuring its permanent preservation.
e Committee feels that the gratitude of the Society,
indeed of the Nation, is due to Sir Hugh Shaw-
art for so public-spirited an action.

bearing generally on proposals such as that made
is case—which unfortunately are far from rare—it is
terest to note that in this instance it is understood
increased accommodation required by the ship-
ing company is obtainable in another direction.

St. Bartholomew's Chapel, Oxford.

description of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Oxford,
ding this building, was given in the report for 1898
as 42-45).

ie Chapel has now been handed over by the Charity
missioners to the Vicar of Cowley St. John, and an
al for £500 has been made with which to restore it.
ie Committee applied to the Vicar of Cowley St.

for information as to the works proposed, and he
good enough to refer it to the architect, whose
he gave. On application this

declining to give particulars of what he proposed, holding that the right course was to trust the architect in whose hands the building had been placed.

A reply was sent to the effect that the Society's enquiry did not imply that it did not trust him, except in so far that it holds that the judgment of no one person should be entirely trusted in dealing with a valuable ancient building. Even when members of the Committee had the repair of ancient buildings under their control, they always reported fully as to how they proposed to deal with them, and in many cases, in the course of the discussion following, some fresh light had been thrown upon the subject.

However, the architect adhered to his decision, and the Society has been unable to obtain detailed information as to the nature of the works contemplated.

From its experience, the Committee cannot help feeling that £500 is a very large sum to expend on such a small building if it is only to be repaired and fitted for use and no "restoration" work attempted.

Parracombe Old Church, Devonshire.

The Committee regrets that the sum needed for carrying out the whole of the repairs to this building, as a result of its having been struck by lightning, as noted in the last report (pages 58-61), has not been forthcoming.

It learns from the Rector, however, that he was able to raise a portion of the amount required and to carry into effect

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commendations. He adds that a mason or two acted under his and the Churchwarden's personal supervision, that externally the building has been put into as good a state of repair as practicable, while internally everything possible has been replaced.

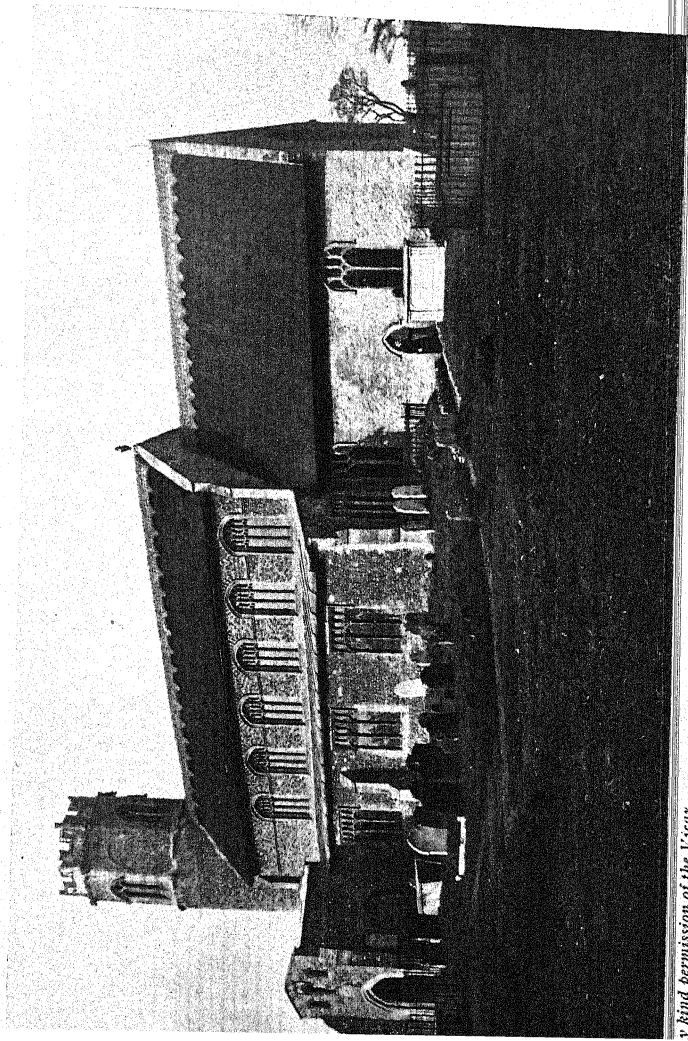
The Committee feels that all lovers of our ancient buildings are indebted to the Rector and Churchwardens for the efforts they have made to bring about the preservation of such an interesting building as Parra-be Old Church.

Potter Heigham Church, Norfolk.

The following is a description of the works which have been carried out recently at this church under the auspices of the Society, the workmen being directed on the building by the architect's assistant under the architect's supervision.

owing to the necessary funds not being available it was not possible to take in hand the whole of the works required; but, by the generosity of the Vicar, the more pressing portions have been dealt with.

The cracks in the walls of the chancel have been repaired and the exterior flintwork repointed. During the process, a recess which appears to have been an embury, was discovered in the north wall, within the sanctuary, and further west was found the outline of an early doorway. Portions of the piscina also were found in the south wall, and these have been carefully refixed in position. Parts of a thirteenth century window jamb



y kind permission of the Vicar.

POTTER HEIGHAM CHURCH, NORFOLK.

have been exposed, also the jamb of the sedilia underneath the window on the west side. Traces of another thirteenth century window and portions of an arch over the south doorway have been uncovered.

On the removal of the old reed thatch from the roof of the chancel the oak timbers were found to be so worm-eaten and decayed as to necessitate their renewal. The roof was ceiled with plaster on the underside of the rafters and cross ties. The timbers have been renewed with English oak and covered with reed thatch, the framing being left exposed on the underside.

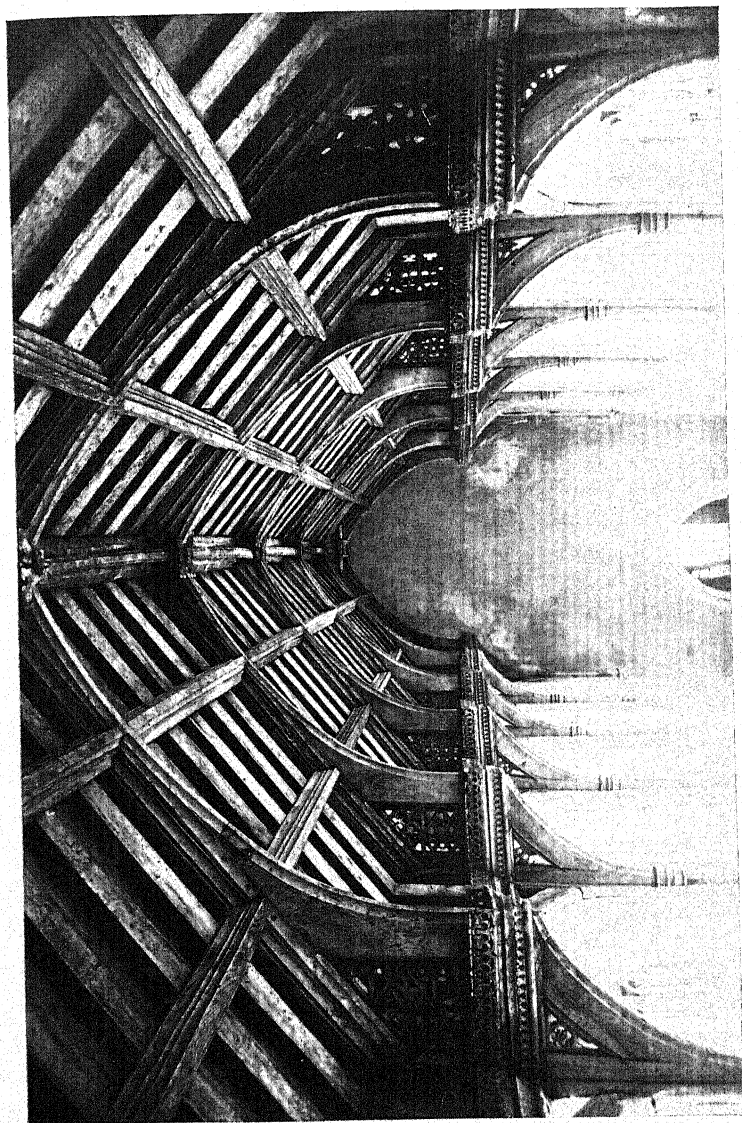
Midway in the length of the roof, a tie-beam has been inserted well secured to the wall plates on the north and south walls, and similarly an iron tie-rod has been fixed against the east wall.

The brick floor of the sanctuary has been relaid on concrete, and a raised foot-pace added around the altar. Choir seats of English oak have been provided.

The chancel arch and responds were found to be insertions of late fourteenth century work; before they were built, the roof to the nave and chancel were probably at one level.

The cracks in the wall over the arch appear to have been caused through the weakening of the south-east angle by the staircase up to the rood loft. To strengthen the angle it was found necessary to build up the staircase, and to rebond together the solid portions of the walls on each side.

The cracks in the north and south walls of the clerestory, over the eastmost window, have been



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NAVE ROOF, POTTER HEIGHAM CHURCH. NORFOLK.

The walls and the windows of the south porch have been carefully repaired and strengthened. The east and the west wall of the aisles have been repaired and strengthened and the stone copings reset. The holy water stoup was found recessed in the wall of aisle east of the south doorway, in good preservation. The head of the recess has a pointed arch.

The east window of the north aisle, which had the old tracery renewed in 1887 and a brick arch built over it, was found to be badly displaced. The arch has been rebuilt and the wall above repaired. During the work the old tracery of the window was found built into the wall.

The ground around the building has been levelled in places and a concrete channel constructed to falls, faced with hand-made bricks and connected to socketted drains to take the surface and roof water away from the building.

The interior plaster on the chancel and nave has been carefully repaired and treated with two coats of limewash toned with colour. The interesting brick font has been carefully repaired.

The old stones found during the repair of the walls have been erected against the west wall of the south aisle, and consist of work of the following periods:—

Thirteenth century: portions of the nave arcade piers, with moulded bases and caps, and of the jambs of the chancel windows and hood moulding.

Fourteenth century: portions of a stone cross, presumably from the east gable of the chancel, and

built against the south-west angle; but for what then took place the Society is in no way responsible.

The works just completed, of which the following is a description, have been confined to the south and east walls of the south transept.

An examination was first made of the foundation of the south wall. This wall, which is 5 feet 2 inches thick and about 70 feet in height above the ground level, leans outwards at the top fully 18 inches. It was found to continue down below the level of the transept floor 11 feet 6 inches, and to rest on a firm bed of heavy clay soil, close on the top of the rock.

Remains of a stone paving were found 1 foot 6 inches above the foundation, which probably formed the floor of the vaulted chamber which abutted against the transept on the south.

The position of the staircase, giving access from the transept to the vaulted chamber, was also discovered at a distance of five feet to the east of the circular staircase, with which it communicated by a narrow staircase in the thickness of the wall. Both staircases were loosely filled in with earth, and afforded no support to the wall above, which was loose and displaced. Careful measurements were taken of their positions, and the spaces filled in solid with cement concrete bonded into the masonry on the face, after which the loose portions of the wall above were removed from the outside face, and the solid portions on each side carefully rebonded together and pinned up to the underside of the solid wall above.

The springing stones of the missing vault which existed on the south of the transept remain in places along the length of the wall. Here and there they were found displaced, by the weight of the wall above having caused them to slide outwards. The displaced stones have been rebbed in a horizontal position, following the curve of the vault.

The wall under the jambs of the two doorways leading into the transept was loose and had to be rebuilt in order to catch up the stones of the jambs.

Where the wall is nearly cut in two by the circular staircase, of which the newel and steps are missing, it was found necessary to form an abutment in the west half of the opening to resist the thrust of the arch over the doorway, which is within a few inches of the opening. The modern work inserted some years ago had failed to arrest the thrust, and had become detached from the old work. The modern filling was removed up to a height of eight feet above the floor level, the half of the staircase built up with roughly squared stones and an arch constructed over the width of the opening, with a lintel on top faced with rough stones. The modern filling-in above this level was strengthened from the inside face of the wall, by the removal of the loose walling inside, and by rebonding, with new work, into the solid portions of the old wall.

The thin portion of the old wall behind the staircase was cracked in its height from the ground upwards through the three small windows. It has been strengthened and repaired by cutting out the loose walling on each side of

the crack, from the inside face, and rebonding together the solid portions on either side.

The wall over the small doorway at the west end of the wall was badly cracked and displaced, from behind the jamb stones on the west of the doorway, to the sill of the three lancet windows over. It has been repaired.

At the level of the top of the arch over the doorway the cutting out was extended over the arch, and a concrete lintel formed to strengthen the arch, of which several of the stones were broken.

The wall over the doorway at the west end of the wall also was cracked. In the work done in 1907 to the west wall of the transept this crack was treated by the insertion of bonding stones, built across the face of the crack at intervals in its height and by grouting with cement and sand. On cutting into the wall to ascertain the result of the grouting it was found that it had penetrated only a short distance into the loose walling, and had served no good purpose. The bonding stones were removed and the walls repaired in the manner described above, a concrete lintel being inserted over the arch of the doorway in a similar manner to that described above in the case of the smaller doorway.

About ten feet below the level of the sill of the three lancet windows the crack spread towards the middle of the transept, where the walling underneath the sill was loose, and decayed by the wet penetrating. A passage way is formed across the transept at the level of the inner sill of the three lancet windows, and connected by a flight of steps with the triforium passage in the east wall.

This passage cut through the two piers between the three lancet windows and weakened them considerably. The westmost pier was renewed by Sir Gilbert Scott some years ago, but, owing to the loose condition of the wall on which the new pier was built, it settled and broke the cross-bonding stones between the pier and the mullion of the windows. The movement caused the mullion to buckle outwards near the bottom, where several of the stones were badly crushed.

The loose walling under the sill has been removed, in short lengths, from the inside face of the wall to the back of the outer facing, and solidly rebuilt—the new work being thoroughly bonded to the sound portions of the old work,—and the top at the level of the sill protected by a bed of cement concrete, weathered on the surface. When the new work had set, the westmost pier was solidly pinned up. The opening between the pier and the mullion has been walled up with rough masonry, in order to strengthen the mullion, where bulged and shattered.

The circular staircase was found to terminate underneath the level of the sill of the three lancet windows, in the form of a pointed dome, which shews on the south face of the wall as a pointed arch, owing to the outer half being missing. Some years ago a half-arch was formed underneath the dome of the staircase, and the space above filled in with masonry. During the repair of the wall, this masonry was found to be in a loose condition, and it has been renewed and replaced with new work bonded into the solid.

The thin portion of the wall underneath the outer sill of the three lancet windows was badly cracked and displaced. It has been repaired and strengthened.

The gable over the three lancet windows was overgrown with ivy and vegetation, which had displaced the inner facing stones and allowed the wet to penetrate, and this had caused the wall to decay down to the top of the arches over the windows. The ivy and vegetation have been removed, and the wall repaired without the removal of any facing stones. The top of the gable was afterwards weathered with cement concrete. The bases of the pinnacles at the angles and middle of the gable have been carefully repaired and repointed on the surface. The concrete filling on the top of the gable, which forms a horizontal tie across the transept, is returned for some distance on the east and west walls in order to tie the gable and side walls together.

The east wall of the transept is pierced by an arcade of three bays with lofty pointed arches, over which is the triforium and clerestory. The buildings which originally abutted against the south side prevented the thrust of the east arcade from displacing the south wall. Unfortunately these buildings no longer exist, and the thrust of the arcade has gradually forced the south wall outwards. Owing to this movement the two southmost bays of the arcade were found to be badly cracked from their arches upwards, and the northmost bay slightly cracked.

In order to relieve the south wall of the thrust the cracks in the two southmost bays have been repaired,

and the top of the exposed surfaces of the wall weathered with cement concrete to prevent the wet penetrating.

The wall over the clerestory was found to be in a loose and disintegrated condition owing to the wet penetrating from the top. The whole of the core of the wall had to be removed down to the top of the arches and replaced with concrete, well bonded into the back of the facing stones, the joints of which were cleaned out and pointed and grouted anew. The top of the wall has been finished with fine concrete and weathered on the surface to throw off the wet. Owing to the lack of funds it was not possible to do more than weather the wall over the north bay.

There still remain to be done many important works of repair and protection, which it is hoped Lord Feversham may see his way to undertake before it is too late to save what still exists of this most noble structure.

The works which have been effected were done—as far as possible by local workmen—under the supervision of the architect, and the constant personal direction of his assistant, in consultation with the Society.

*The Master's House, The Grammar School, Risley,
Derby.*

The last report contained a description of this building (pages 66-68); and the works, then mentioned as being in progress, have been completed under the

personal direction of the architect, in connexion with the Society.

It was necessary to remove the stone cappings and about three feet of the brickwork of the two large brick chimneys over the central portion of the house, which was so much displaced as to be unsafe. The old bricks were cleaned and used in the work of rebuilding, and the stone cappings repaired and replaced in position, together with the old pots, and a good weathering of Portland cement and sand placed over to make the whole weathertight. The pointing of the brickwork, which had decayed, was carefully raked out, and the joints repointed with lime mortar.

The old hand-made tiles on the roof had on the north side been rehung in recent times, and were in sound condition; but on the other three sides they were generally loose and displaced, and have been rehung on new rent oak laths. The hips of the roof are covered with cast lead, which has been carefully repaired and refixed.

The four dormer windows, which were in a dilapidated state, have been carefully repaired with English oak. Their covering of cast lead is sound.

The flat portion of the roof, over the slopes, is covered with cast lead, and this has been carefully repaired and made weatherproof, and so too has the lead covering on the top of the stone cornice on the front of the house, parts having to be renewed with new cast lead.

The roof of the kitchen wing, on the north of the main house, was dealt with similarly.

The stone cornice around the eaves has been repaired

and repointed, and the face, which was beginning to decay, treated with baryta water.

The stone heads of the windows on the south front which had dropped in the middle, have been repaired by removing the brickwork above them, raising the stones into their original positions, grouting them in solid, and then replacing the old brickwork.

The walls were overgrown with ivy: this has been removed and the roots grubbed up. The brick facing has been repaired where necessary, and repointed with lime mortar.

The circular stone steps in front of the old entrance doorway, now built up, were badly displaced and sunk, owing to the want of a proper foundation. They have been solidly rebedded on a new concrete foundation.

The stone shield over the entrance doorway has been repaired and refixed in its position in the pediment, and treated with baryta water to arrest decay.

The cellars underneath the house were very damp owing to their being flooded at times by the small stream which passes close to the east side of the house. They have been dealt with by raising the level of the floor nine inches and laying a bed of cement concrete, on a bottoming of broken brick.

The half-round eaves gutter, which conveys the rain-water from the roofs to a tank over the kitchen addition, has been renewed with a five inch half-round gutter, as the old one was inefficient and allowed the water to overflow during storms. The connexion into the tank has also been rearranged.

Robeston West Church, Pembrokeshire.

The Committee learnt that it was proposed to carry out some works to this church, and approached the Rector for information. He received most courteously the Society's communication; and ultimately a visit to the building was made by a professional member, who there met the architects.

The Church is of considerable interest. It has a nave, with a south door, blocked up; a chancel, with side chapel called the Roch Chapel; a tower, with a stone vaulted chamber used as a vestry; and a north porch.

The Committee sent to the Rector a detailed report describing the works considered by them necessary for the preservation of the building and for fitting it for divine worship. An approximate estimate of the cost was appended.

The Rector, in his letter thanking the Society, stated, of the report: "It is true in the least detail, and the grasp of the whole is really very wonderful." The architects, moreover, informed the Committee that, having carefully considered the report, they were fully in agreement with it, and would endeavour to carry out the works accordingly.

The Committee has sent to the Rector a letter of recommendation, and to show the Society's goodwill has promised to set aside from the Building Fund the sum of £2 2s. as a small contribution to the Church Repair Fund, to be paid over on the completion of the works if they are found to have been carried out satisfactorily to the Committee.

Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorkshire.

This building was described in the last report (pages 68-72), and it was then stated that a portion of the repairs needed would shortly be put in hand under the Society's auspices. The works which it was possible to undertake have now been completed. They consist of the structural repair of the western tower, and the general repair and repointing of the exterior of the building exclusive of the tower; the repair of the roof of the north and south aisles, and the chancel, and the relaying and recasting of the leadwork; the repair and releading of the crown glass in the windows of the aisles and clerestory, and the renewing of the rainwater gutters, down pipes and drainage.

The walls of the tower were found to be built on a good foundation of hard virgin soil, about one foot below the floor level. A scaffold was erected inside the tower and the walls shored up on the outside to the level of the first floor. The west doorway and the arches supporting the north and south walls were strengthened with temporary centering, and the tower shut off from the rest of the church with a boarded partition.

The west wall was found to be wholly disintegrated from the foundation upwards; and owing to its critical condition great care had to be exercised. The whole up to the first floor level had to be strengthened. For this purpose the loose walling was removed from the inside in small sections, to the back of the outer facing stones. The old stones on the interior facing were replaced, with

the exception of a few where new bonding stones were used, and the core of the wall was renewed with concrete and occasional bonding-courses of stone. The north and south walls over the arches were treated in a similar manner. A continuous bond of brickwork in the form of a horizontal lintel, about three feet in depth, was inserted around the tower in the thickness of the three walls, immediately over the rough relieving arches, in order to transmit the weight of the superstructure to the solid portions of the walls at the angles. By this means the thrust of the arches is decreased and the tower is strongly bonded together.

The cracks in the walls above the first floor were followed up and repaired, by cutting away the loose walling in small sections from the inside face to the back of the outer facing, and rebonding together the solid portion of the wall.

The mullions and tracery of the belfry windows, where displaced and loose, have been refixed; and the arches over the openings, also displaced, have been repaired and strengthened.

On the removal of the lead from the roof, the old timbers were found to be rotten in places. They have been repaired and strengthened and the oak boarding on the top renewed with English oak, covered with deal boarding. On this has been relaid the old lead, after recasting on the site, and the gutters reformed with good falls to the existing outlets.

The masonry of the arches supporting the north and south walls, where crushed by the movement of the west

wall, has been repaired, and the joints of the arches cleaned out and grouted in solid. The interior surface of the walls up to the first floor level has been repointed with mortar of ground blue lias lime and sharp coarse sand, finished flush with the general surface.

The walls of the north and south aisles were loose and displaced at the ground level, owing to the rainwater from the roofs soaking into them, through defective drainage. The perished mortar has been removed and the rubble facing repointed.

The roofs of the north and south aisles have had the lead removed and the timbers repaired and strengthened with English oak, covered with deal boarding, on which has been relaid the lead after having been recast on the site. The stone copings, etc., have been repaired where necessary.

The roof of the chancel has had the lead removed, and the timbers repaired and strengthened with English oak, covered with oak boarding. On this latter has been put deal boarding, on which has been relaid the recast lead. The lead gutter over the chapel on the south side has been relaid,—with the old lead recast,—on new deal boarding, constructed to proper falls.

The stone slates on the north side of the roof of the south chapel have been rehung, and the timbers repaired where necessary.

The walls of the chancel and south chapel have been repaired and repointed on the exterior where required, and the plaster ceiling in the chapel, has been repaired and limewashed anew.

All the gutters and down pipes have been repaired or renewed where necessary, and connected with gullies to new stoneware socketted drains, which discharge into an old drain at the north-east angle of the sacristy.

The glazing of the windows throughout, with the exception of the chancel and south chapel, has had the old crown glass carefully releaded and refixed, two Hopper casements being provided for the clerestory and aisle windows. The portions of old stained glass in the leads of the windows of the north aisle have been carefully releaded and refixed.

The work which remains to be done is the repair and repointing of the exterior of the tower, the rehangings of the bells, and the removal of the modern plaster ceiling from the nave and south chapel.

A stone effigy and portions of an alabaster tomb, now lying in the south chapel, require to be carefully put together and fixed in a more suitable position.

The works enumerated above were carried out—for the most part by local workmen—under the personal superintendence of the architect, in consultation with the Society.

Skenfrith Church, Monmouthshire.

This church was reported upon by the Society in the year 1900. At the request of the Repair Committee the building has been visited again and a further report provided.

The main fabric of the church was found to be in

much the same condition as at the time of the first survey, but the external masonry of the windows is decidedly worse, although it is not considered to be so badly decayed as to be beyond repair.

A detailed report was sent to the Church Repair Committee, who are now trying to raise the funds needed for the repair of the building, and properly fitting it for Divine Worship.

As soon as the amount required is forthcoming the work is to be carried out under the immediate personal direction of the architect, in consultation with the Society.

St. Mary's Church Tower, Stamford.

At the request of persons interested, this building was visited on behalf of the Society. The tower, situated at the west end of the church, stands at the angle of two of the main streets of the town. It is divided into five stages, and is richly ornamented with a series of arcades of beautiful thirteenth century workmanship.

The spire, which appears to have been built early in the fourteenth century, is octagonal, and is exceedingly graceful. It rises to a height of about 170 feet above the ground.

Both the tower and spire seem to lean towards the east; but no trace of a settlement in the foundations could be discovered.

The walls at the ground level are fully four feet thick, and, although apparently outwardly well built, they are not sound. High up the tower they are in a really serious condition of disrepair.

About 120 years ago extensive measures were taken to strengthen the tower, by fixing bands of iron on the outside faces of the walls, bolted through at intervals to pieces of oak on the internal faces. One of these bands is at the level of the first floor, two at the belfry level, close together, and one at the top of the tower.

In the report which the Society forwarded to those interested in the preservation of the tower, the repairs necessary to put it into a proper structural condition were set forth. It is estimated that these will cost about £850.

The Committee understands that an effort is being made by the Church authorities to raise the sum required, and it hopes that the work will be carried out in accordance with the Society's recommendations and under the constant direct personal supervision of the architect.

St. John's Church Tower, Staveley, Derbyshire.

This church consists of chancel, nave, with north and south aisles; Sackville Chapel; south porch and western tower. With the exception of the Sackville Chapel and the tower, the building was rebuilt in 1865.

The tower, which was surveyed by the Society, generally has escaped "restoration," the exception being the western doorway. The walls are three feet thick up to the bell chamber floor, where they are reduced to two feet six inches. There is a newel staircase at the south-west angle, built partly in the thickness of the wall, rising to the full height of the tower.

The walls up to the first string course are of roughly coursed rubble, and appear to have been built in the thirteenth century. The work above is faced with ashlar with rubble backing, and was probably built in the fifteenth century. Battlements and pinnacles were added in 1861.

The tower is divided into three storeys; ringing, clock, and bell chambers. This latter contains a heavy peal of eight bells. The six largest bells, dated 1782, retain their cannons, and are in good condition. The two smaller bells were put in at the time of the Diamond Jubilee. The peal is hung in a sound oak frame, which stands free from the walls and is supported on two beams, twelve inches by twelve inches, from the north to the south side, with two beams underneath running diagonally one from the north wall to the east, and the other from the west wall to the south.

The roof of the tower is of oak covered with cast lead in good repair.

The walls of the tower are cracked and bulged in places, and the walls of the bell chamber, and the tracery and jambs of four windows are in a very perished, dilapidated state, due to the gases which arise from the numerous works which surround the church.

There was sent to the Rector a report in which were given details of the works considered essential for putting the building into proper structural repair; and this was laid before the Church Council. An effort is now being made to raise the sum needed to carry out the work.

Tower and Porch, Trent Church, near Sherborne.

This building was visited on behalf of the Society; the Rector not only giving his consent to the inspection, but meeting and assisting the professional member who made the survey. The general structure of the church was "restored" about forty years ago; the work now contemplated is confined to the Tower and Porch.

The chancel, which is of fifteenth century date, measures internally twenty-one feet six inches by fifteen feet six inches. The roof appears to have been renewed—or possibly only receiled—during the "restoration." A beautiful fifteenth century oak screen divides the chancel from the nave.

The nave, which is probably of fifteenth century foundation, measures internally fifty-eight feet by nineteen feet nine inches, and has been re-roofed at the time of the "restoration." It contains some fifteenth century bench ends.

The interior of the church, including the tower-transept and the porch, is covered with cement, lined to imitate stone.

The tower, which measures internally twelve feet three inches by twelve feet three inches, and the porch, the internal dimensions of which are twelve feet one inch by eleven feet ten inches, remain—nearly untouched—on the south side of the nave. They appear to have been built toward the end of the thirteenth or the beginning of the fourteenth centuries. The walls are of local stone with Ham Hill stone quoins and window jambs, etc.

The spire and the parapet appear to be of fifteenth century work. The parapet of the porch is modern.

The tower, which forms the south transept of the church, is ceiled with plaster at a height of about nineteen feet six inches, in the Victorian Gothic manner. The walls are about three feet four inches thick and have angle buttresses. In the east wall is a two-light window with traceried head filled with bordered cathedral glass. In the south wall is a three-light window with a beautiful traceried head of uncommon design, filled with coloured picture glass of 1871, in memory of a late Rector. It would be a great advantage to have the glass of these windows replaced with clear crown glass in leaded lights. In the west window is a low doorway, at present blocked up: the old doors remain on the porch side. The seats in the tower are of deal, in imitation of the fifteenth century benches of the nave. The boarded floor under the seats is uneven, due probably to decaying joists. The gangway is paved with modern tiles. The modern plaster is cracked in about the middle of the length of the walls.

A spiral stone staircase at the S.W. angle gives access to the ringing chamber on the first floor. Several of the steps are badly cracked, due to settlement of the tower. The roof is of elegant hexagonal groining supported by the newel.

The ringing chamber is ceiled, at a height of twelve feet, with plaster and boarding. The cracks are more serious at this level and the walls appear to be shattered on each side of them, particularly under the window sills, on which are fixed stout oak posts supporting the beams of the bell frame. The arches of the west and east

windows are displaced by the movement of the beams. A doorway on the north side leads on to the lead gutter of the nave roof, which requires relaying to better falls.

The windows of two lights have traceried heads; they are glazed with clear sheet glass in diamond panes. The tracery of the south window is much jarred by a beam supporting the bell frame.

The floor boards, which appear to be of elm, are decayed in places. The joists are inaccessible, and there is no provision in the floor for lowering the bells.

The belfry, which is reached by an oak ladder, contains five bells hung in two cages, about five feet apart, probably of eighteenth century work. They are about five feet in height and are constructed in oak, apparently sound, though in places cut to allow the bells to swing.

It is essential to reconstruct the lower cage to take as many of the bells as possible, in order to remove their weight on to the belfry floor.

Both the bell cages are tight against the walls at many points, which causes the vibration set up in ringing the bells to shake the fabric and to crack the walls, as is shewn by the condition of the spire and tower.

Three of the bells are of pre-Reformation date, the other two being dated 1603 and 1819 respectively. The beautiful lettering on the pre-Reformation bells varies considerably.

The cannons of the first, fourth and tenor are undamaged. That of the second is partly gone, and the third completely so. On no account should the bells be recast or mutilated by the removal of their cannons.

The lead gutter behind the pierced parapet of the tower, which is reached by a ladder, is in very bad condition.

Each of the four walls of the tower is cracked at the middle through the windows, etc., from the parapet to the ground. The cracks on the south and east sides are markedly more open than the others. A string course and set-off marks the position of the belfry floor at about twenty-three feet from the top of the parapet. The belfry has on each face two light openings with traceried heads; filled in modern times with pierced stonework—commonly used in the neighbourhood. The tower finishes, sixty feet four inches above the ground level, with the beautiful corbel table on carved heads, surmounted by a fifteenth century parapet with modern pinnacles.

The spire, of fifteenth century workmanship, or possibly earlier, rises about forty feet above the tower. It is seriously damaged by ringing the bells and by the settlement of the tower. From twelve to sixteen feet of the masonry at the top leans dangerously towards the south-east, and many of the bed joints are open, particularly on the north and west faces, through which the wet penetrates. The angles are finished with moulded rolls, which terminate at the top in cusped heads. A flagstaff is placed on the north-east angle of the tower, resting in the gutter on a block of wood and secured to the spire with iron rods and bolts.

The south arch and the wall over are cracked badly, probably owing to the settlement of the tower. The

west buttress is displaced and the stones, which are covered with ivy, appear loose. The paving is in fair condition. The fifteenth century oak roof, with its three principals supported on carved stone heads, requires careful repair. Unfortunately the rafters and boarding are renewed with pine. It is covered with lead which has crept downward, and requires attention; the rainwater head overflows and saturates the walls.

The doors of the church appear to be of Reformation or pre-Reformation workmanship.

The cracks in the tower and the twist of the spire—which are probably due to settlement of the tower in the first place—have been much increased by the vibration set up in the ringing of the bells. The foundation is said to be of stiff earth and clay, at a depth of two feet nine inches below the ground level.

A report was forwarded to the Rector, in which was given a detailed description of the tower and porch and the works of repair needed.

Unfortunately, the Rector has informed the Society that plans had already been prepared before the receipt of the report, and that these had been passed and accepted. Also, that his Committee felt bound to carry them through. The Committee trusts, however, that these plans may be modified, for the Society's estimate of the cost of repairing the tower and porch is £1,025, whereas the estimate for carrying out the works in accordance with the scheme referred to is £1,435. Therefore, even from the purely monetary point of view, the subject is worthy of reconsideration.

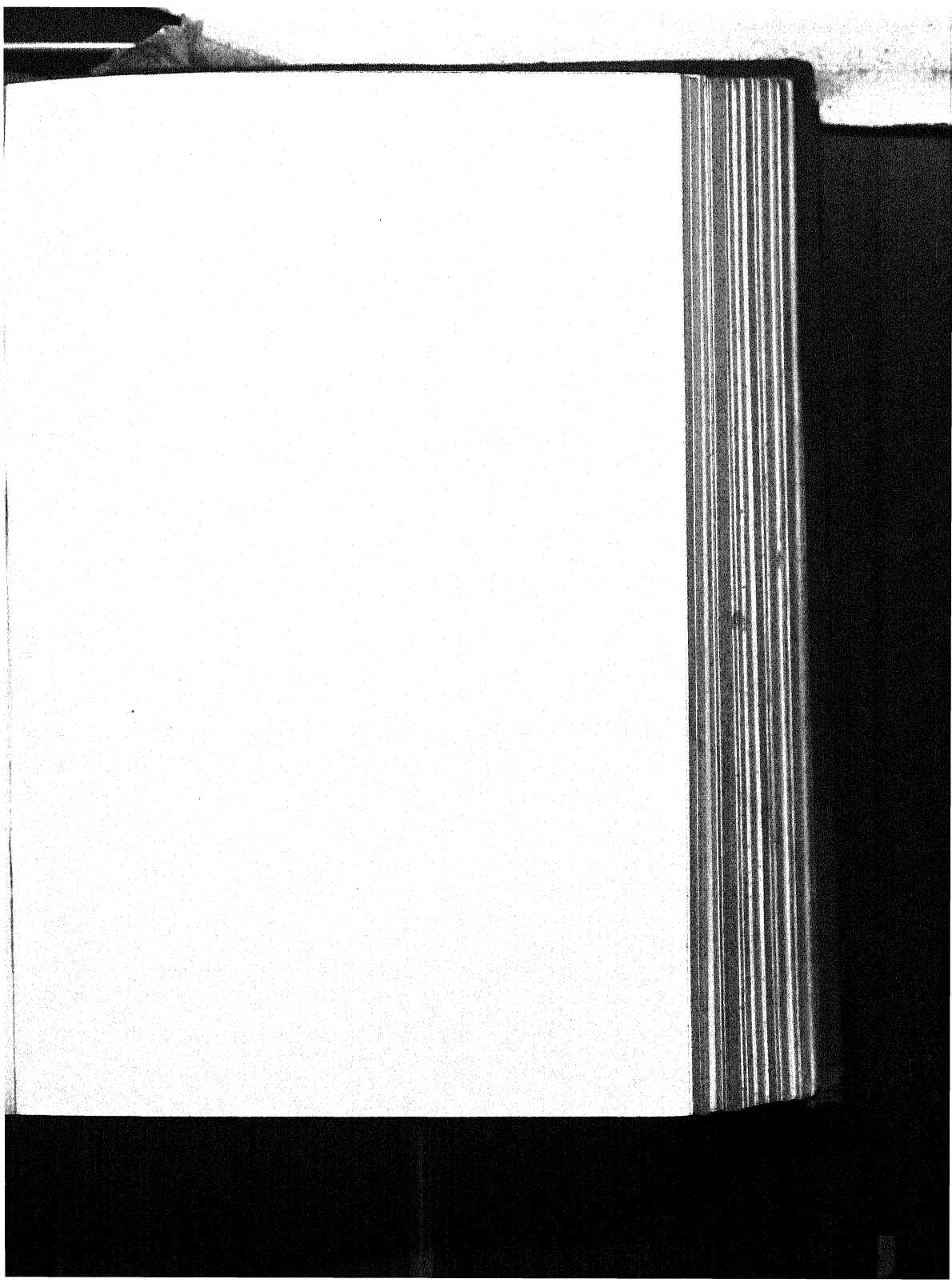
Old Town Hall, Watlington, Oxon.

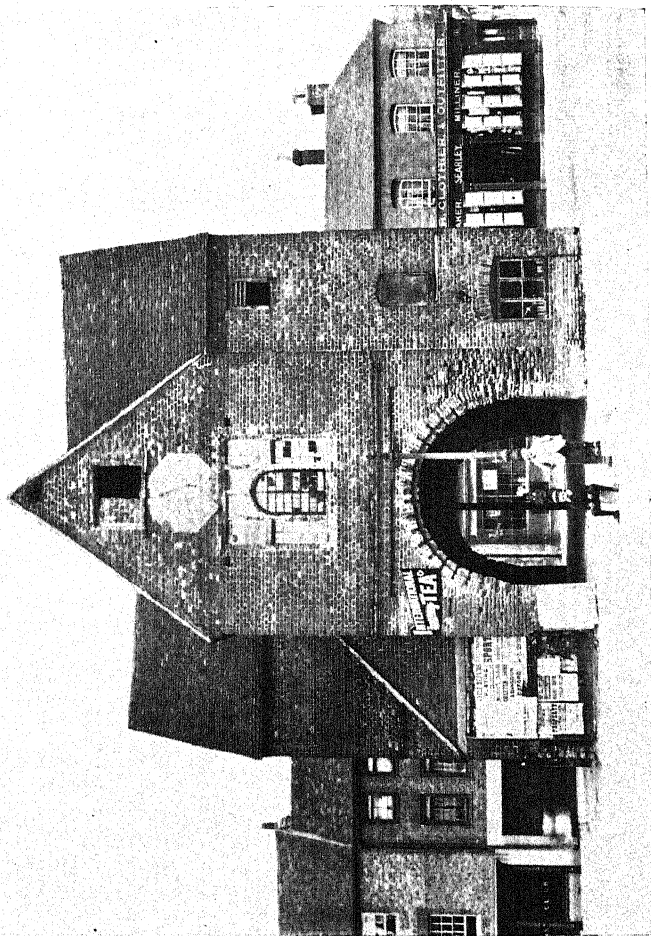
A short account of this building was given in the report for 1907 (pages 80-81); and in the last report (page 80) it was stated that the necessary works of repair were in progress. These have now been completed. The views given shew the building before and after repair.

The walls of the building up to the first floor level were found to be built of an outer and inner brick facing, bonded together at intervals, and the core filled in with clunch. The cracks at the angles were caused by the thrust of the roof pushing the walls apart. They have been repaired by removing the brickwork on either side of each of the cracks from the inside face to the back of the outer facing, and, after well cleaning and wetting the walls, rebonding together the solid portions, the old bricks being supplemented with new hand-made bricks of the same size, specially made at Wheatley Oxon. Where the brick facing was badly decayed it was necessary to replace the old bricks with new.

A concrete channel has been constructed around the outside of the walls at the street level to remove the rain and surface water away from the building.

The cross beams resting on the north and south walls and supporting the first floor were found to have rotted away where the ends were built into the walls. Oak corbels have been inserted underneath the sound portions and secured with three bolts. Also iron plates have been fixed to the ends of the beams through the walls and secured on the face with S-shaped irons, to prevent the

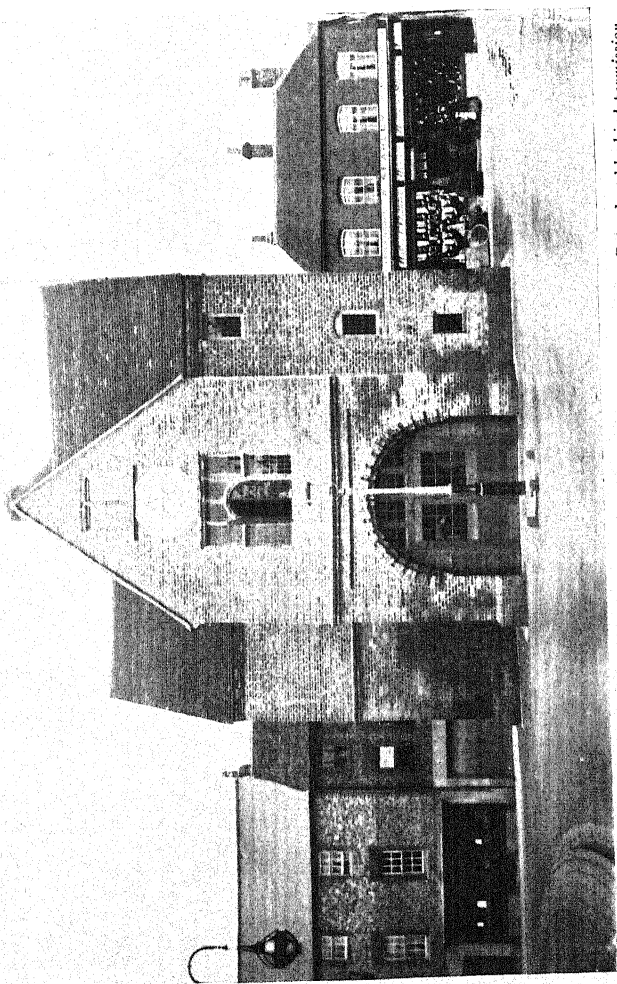




Photo, C. H. Wilson, Watlington.

OLD TOWN HALL, WATLINGTON, OXON.
Before Repair.

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Photo, C. H. Wilson, Watlington.

OLD TOWN HALL, WATLINGTON, OXON.
After Repair.

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walls from spreading outwards. The middle beam has an oak post under it for support, resting on the ground floor. Oak brackets have been inserted under the two other beams and framed into vertical pieces of oak on the face of the wall, supported on stone corbels, about six feet above the floor level, in order to allow the first floor to be used for dancing.

There is a large chimney built on the top of the internal archway on the south side, between the main building and the south wing. Its weight had displaced, to a considerable extent, the arch and the abutments. The danger of any further movement has been arrested by building a solid brick pier under the middle of the arch, supported by two smaller arches on each side of the pier.

A modern lean-to building on the south-west angle, used to store the fire engine, has been removed, and the south wing of the building fitted up as an engine house.

A cobbler's shop underneath the staircase on the opposite side of the wing has been cleared out, and the modern window and doorway built up to strengthen the walls.

A doorway has been formed through the partition wall of the staircase to provide access to a coal store.

The exterior surface of the brickwork has been carefully repaired and repointed throughout with ground blue lias lime mortar. The brick mullions and transoms of the windows also have been repaired. Where at the first floor level the window had been built up on the west front for access from the hotel opposite by a bridge for the County Ball, it has been opened out and the

missing mullions and transom renewed with brickwork plastered on the surface.

On removing the modern grates, etc., filling in the fireplace openings in the two rooms on the first floor, the original openings were found, constructed in brickwork with oak lintels over. They have been repaired and the openings adapted for wrought iron basket grates with new brickwork, with firelump backs and hearths.

The joists of the first and second floors have been repaired and strengthened where necessary with English oak, and a new floor of English oak, laid on deal boarding, provided for the first floor. The old elm floor boards from the first floor, supplemented with boards of deal, have been used for the second floor.

The staircase from the ground to the first floor has been renewed in English oak, and the old hand-rails and newels repaired and filled in with a trellis of oak work.

The old hand-made tiles were removed from the roofs, the timbers strengthened and repaired, and the wall plates renewed where defective. Iron cross-ties were inserted to relieve the walls of the thrust of the roof.

The lead gutter between the roofs on the east side was recast and relaid with a good fall to the outlet. A cast lead head, dated, with lead pipe, was fixed to remove the water from the gutter into the open channel at the ground level.

Finally the hand-made tiles, supplemented where necessary with new of a similar nature, have been rehung on rent oak laths.

The bell turret also was repaired, the exterior covered with oak boarding, and the roof with hand-made tiles. The oak post supporting the weather-vane was replaced by a new one of oak, covered with cast lead, and the old weather-vane repaired and refixed.

The top of the brick chimney, which was in a bad condition, has been repaired and repointed. The sundial on the south front, which is of plaster on the face of brickwork, had all but perished. It has been repaired and the hours marked on and painted.

The works of the old clock have been repaired, and connected with the bell in the turret so that the hours are struck. The face of the clock, which is fixed on the east gable, has been cleaned and repainted.

The leaded glazing, which had been destroyed while the building was in disuse in years past, has been replaced with old crown glass in leaded lights similar in size to the old ones, and the iron casements have been repaired and supplemented with additional ones where required.

The modern deal doors to the entrance doorway, and the rooms on the first floor, have been replaced with new doors of English oak, with wrought iron hinges made by the local blacksmith.

The three archways leading from the lower portion of the main building from the various streets have been enclosed with gates of wrought iron. The other archway, which gives access to the portion now used to store the fire engine, has been fitted with oak gates.

The ground floor, formerly of earth, has been excavated and a six inch bed of cement concrete inserted on a layer

of broken brick, and the surface finished with cement and sand.

The plaster on the interior of the two rooms on the first floor and the staircase was treated with distemper in a temporary way at the completion of the works. It has since been finished by a local painter in a somewhat unfortunate manner, but the Society is not responsible for this, nor for the gas brackets and fittings which have been provided.

In accordance with the Society's usual custom the works were carried out under the direct personal supervision of the architect in consultation with it, local workmen being employed as far as possible.

Whaplode Church, Lincolnshire.

A description of this building was given in the report for 1904 (pages 66-68).

The Committee is glad to be able to state that there is a probability of those works of repair recommended by the Society being undertaken at an early date, under its auspices.

The new Vicar is anxious to commence the work as soon as possible, and the Committee hopes that the money needed will be forthcoming without delay.

The church is much larger than is needed for the requirements of the parish, and it is reasonable to appeal for liberal assistance from outside towards the expense of repairing such an exceptionally fine example of mediæval architecture.

The Society has promised to subscribe toward the cost of the work £10 from its Building Fund.

*St. Mary Magdalen Church, Wiggshall,
Norfolk.*

It came to the knowledge of the Committee that a movement was on foot to restore this church; and, with the consent of the Vicar, it was visited by the Society.

The building is large and is interesting. It has a chancel, seventeen feet wide by forty feet long; a nave, twenty-one feet six inches wide by sixty-six feet long, with north and south aisles, eleven feet wide by sixty-four feet long; a south porch, ten feet wide by twelve feet long; and a western tower, twelve feet square.

The chancel, nave, and tower appear to have been built in the fourteenth century.

The original steep pitched roof of the nave, apparently, was replaced by the present roof, of flatter pitch, in the fifteenth century, when the clerestory was added. Probably about the same time the windows in the south wall of the chancel, and in the north and south aisles, were inserted, and the south porch built.

As regards the chancel, the walls appear sound, with the exception of a crack near the east end in the north wall and another through the middle window of the south wall. The roof, which appears to be modern, is covered with slates, and ceiled with plaster on the underside of the rafters.

The east window retains its original jambs and arch, but the mullions and interlacing tracery are modern insertions. The windows in the north wall are built up.

There is some good Jacobean panelling at the east end of the Sanctuary; it is, however, thickly coated with paint. The floor is paved with good local tiles, and the windows are glazed with old crown glass in diamond panes. The fittings otherwise are modern. The original chancel arch exists in good repair.

The nave arcades consist of five lofty bays. The south wall from floor upwards leans slightly outwards. The clerestory has in each bay a three-light window. The mullions of these are badly split by the corrosion of the iron bars which are built into them. The walling is sound with the exception of the exterior plastering, which is badly decayed. The east gable is flanked by octagonal turrets, and these contain circular staircases up to the roofs.

The walls are cracked in places and the plaster on the exterior is decayed. A flue pipe from the stove is taken up the south turret, on the outside, in an unsightly manner.

The nave roof was repaired about thirty years ago, and appears to be in good condition. It is covered with cast lead. On the north side wet has penetrated the gutter behind the stone parapet.

The roof of both the aisles retain their old timbers; they are in bad condition owing to the wet having reached them through the lead covering. Several of the principal timbers are secured with iron straps, and the ends of the main beams appear to be rotten. The cast lead is patched and worn beyond repair, and the oak boarding underneath is rotten. The stone weathering at the east and

west ends is loose and generally in rather bad condition.

The windows in both the aisles are in fair repair, with the exception of the stone mullions, which in places are split by the corrosion of the iron bars. The windows in the north aisle retain in portions of the tracery the fine old stained glass, and there are a few fragments of stained glass in the tracery of the clerestory windows; otherwise the windows are glazed with beautiful old crown glass. The window at the west end of each of the aisles, has lost its mullions and tracery, and is built up.

The south porch is fairly sound, with the exception of the exterior plaster, and the three-light window over the entrance, which has lost its mullions. The floor of the Parvis also is missing.

The tower has only a small doorway leading into the nave. The east and west walls are cracked slightly, about the middle from the ground upwards. A spiral stone staircase is formed in the south-west angle between the buttresses. The walls of this are cracked badly, from the ground upwards, and the steps are worn and broken in places.

The belfry contains a peal of six bells hung on an oak frame. The bells are very crowded, and the frame, which is in contact with the walls, has been added to in a rough manner, as the number of bells has been increased.

There is a good two-light opening on each face of the belfry. That on the south is in a dangerous condition, owing to the stone mullion having been broken at the top and forced outwards by the corrosion of the iron bar.

Similarly, a portion is split off the face of the mullion on the west side. The roof timbers appear to be sound, and so does the cast lead on top.

The buttresses on the west face of the tower are split and bulged on the face at the ground level, otherwise the exterior facing is in fair repair.

The plaster on the interior of the building, which appears to be old, is limewashed, together with the masonry of the windows and the nave arcades; the caps of the latter being painted.

There is no chancel screen in position, but portions of a fifteenth century screen are fitted up at the west end of the aisles. The front seats of the nave are modern deal pews. Behind these are some old fifteenth century benches in fair repair. The pulpit is modern. The floor at the seats is of deal, and the passages are paved with bricks in sound condition.

With the exception of the roofs of the aisles, and the general repair of the exterior surface, the building does not require any extensive work in order to render it sound and weatherproof. Such works as are necessary were fully set forth in a report which was sent to the Vicar, who informed the Society that in all probability the recommendations in it would be acted upon.

Porch, St. Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York.

A paragraph appeared in the public press to the effect that the ancient sculpture in the Porch of St Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York, was to be replaced by modern sculpture made in imitation of the original work.

The Committee communicated with the Rector upon the subject, and he was good enough to inform the Society that nothing definite had been decided upon with regard to the question of how the building should be dealt with, but that something would have to be done without delay; he expressed his willingness to receive advice from the Society, and a visit was made on its behalf.

The Porch is of Norman work and consists of a deeply recessed semi-circular arch, with four outer orders richly carved.

The action of the atmosphere, heavily charged with smoke fumes, is causing rapid decay of the stone; and the Committee recommended the application of the lime and baryta treatment, which would gradually harden the surface and arrest further decay. It also urged that no attempt should be made to reproduce any of the missing features, as the unrestored work is most valuable, and if the decay were arrested and the stone sufficiently hardened to protect it in the future from further decay, the old work even in its weatherworn state would be infinitely more valuable than a "restoration" under the best conditions.

It is estimated that the sum of £30 will be required to carry out the works of preservation, and the Committee sincerely hopes that this amount will be forthcoming.

*The following is a list of Buildings which have come before the
Society during the Year :*

- Abbotsbury, Dorset., St. Catherine's Chapel.
 Abingdon, Berks., St. Helen's Church.
 Ashwell Church Tower, Herts.
 Aston Somerville Church, Glos.
 Ayr, N.B., Auld Brig of Barrington Court, Somerset.
 Barrow-on-Trent Church, Derby.
 Barthomley Church Tower, Cheshire.
 Bath, Somerset, Houses Bath Street.
 Bedford, St. Paul's Church.
 Bengoe Church, Herts.
 Birmingham, Warwickshire, Cathedral Church of St. Philip.
 Birmingham, Warwickshire, House, Deritend.
 Bishopstoke Church Tower, Hants.
 Bledlow Church, Bucks.
 Bolsover Castle, Derbyshire.
 Boston, Lincs., The Old Guild Hall.
 Bowden Kirk, N.B.
 Bradbourne Church, Derby.
 Bramley, Surrey, House at.
 Bressingham Church, Norfolk.
 Bristol, Gloucestershire, St. Stephen's Church Tower.
 Bromsgrove Church, Worcester-shire.
 Bruisyard Church, Suffolk.
 Bruton Church Tower, Somerset.
 Buckingham, Royal Latin School.
 Burford, Oxon, Old Priory.
 Burnham Ulph Church, Norfolk.
 Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, St. Mary's Church.
 Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk, Town Hall.
 Buscot Church, Berks.
 Cellan Church, Cardiganshire.
 Chalton Church, Hants. 2F77
 Cherington Church, Warwick-shire.
 Chester Cathedral.
 Chester, St. Peter's Church.
 Chesterfield Church, Derbyshire.
 Chevington Church, Suffolk.
 Chichester, Sussex, "The Guild-hall."
 Christchurch Priory Church, Hants.
 Cirencester Church, Gloucester-shire.
 Cirencester, Gloucestershire, Town Hall.
 Cogenhoe Church Bells, Northants.
 Coln St. Denis Church, Glos.
 Coventry, Warwickshire, Palace Yard, Earl Street.
 Creech, nr. Taunton, Somerset, Houses at.
 Cromhall Church, Glos., Organ.
 Crosthwaite Church, nr. Keewick, Cumberland.
 Croydon, Surrey, The Old Palace.
 Croydon, Surrey, Whitgift Hosp.
 Curry Mallet, Somerset, Buildings at.
 Cyprus, Antiquities of.
 Dartmoor, Devonshire, Ancient Monuments on.

Donington Church, Lincs.
 Dundarave Castle, Argyllshire,
 N.B.
 Dymchurch Church, Kent.
 Edgware Parish Church, Middle-
 sex.
 Eglington Abbey, Yorks., Bridge.
 Eton College, Bucks.
 Exeter Cathedral, Devonshire.
 Fincham Church, Norfolk.
 Finedon Church Tower and Bells,
 Northants.
 Foulsham, Norfolk, House.
 Gaywood Church, Norfolk.
 Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.
 Gloucester, St. Mary-de-Crypt
 Church.
 Godalming Church, Surrey.
 Gorleston Church Tower, Suffolk.
 Great Cornard Church, Suffolk.
 Great Crosby, Lancs., Cross at.
 Great Stukeley Church, Hunts.
 Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, Old
 Town Walls.
 Guildford, Surrey, Castle Gate-
 way House.
 Guildford, Surrey, St. Catherine's
 Chapel.
 Haddiscoe Church, Norfolk.
 Haddon Hall, Derbyshire.
 Halford, Shipston-on-Stour, War-
 wickshire, Manor House.
 Hanborough Church, Oxon.
 Harnhill Church, Gloucester-
 shire.
 Heath Chapel, Salop.
 Hemsworth, nr. Wimborne,
 Dorset, Roman Pavements.
 Heston Church, Middlesex.
 Highworth Church, Wilts.
 High Wycombe, Bucks., Hospital
 of St. John-the-Baptist.
 Hill Church, Gloucestershire.
 Hitchin, Herts., St. Mary's
 Church.
 Holyrood Abbey, N.B.
 Honeychurch Church, Devon-
 shire.

Honington Church, Suffolk.
 Ifield Court, Kent.
 Ilkeston Church, Derbyshire.
 Inglesham Church, Wilts.
 Isle Abbot's Church, Somerset.
 Ivychurch Church, Kent.
 Kedleston Church, Derbyshire.
 Keynsham Church, Somerset,
 Bells.
 Kington Church, Herefordshire.
 Kirkwall, Orkney, St. Magnus
 Cathedral.
 Langley Chapel, Shropshire.
 Lavenham Church, Suffolk.
 Leckhampton Church, Glos.
 Lilbourne Church, Northants.
 Little Malvern Priory Church,
 Worcestershire.
 Little Wittenham Church, Berks.,
 Monuments.
 Livesey Old Hall, Lancs.
 Llanbister Church, Radnors.
 Llanddewi Brefi Church, Cardi-
 ganshire.
 London, Canonbury, N., Somer-
 set House.
 London, Chelsea, Houses at
 London, Chelsea, Old Church.
 London, 7, Old Bond Street,
 Room by Inigo Jones at.
 London, Lombard Street, Church
 of St. Edmund-the-King.
 London, The Temple, E.C.,
 Buildings in.
 London, Shoreditch, Sir Robert
 Jeffery's Almshouses.
 London, West Smithfield, Ancient
 Gateway.
 Long Sutton Church Tower,
 Somerset.
 Lostwithiel, Cornwall, Bridge.
 Ludlow Church, Salop, Screen.
 Lutton Church, Lincs.
 Lymme, Cheshire, Cross.
 Lympne Castle, Kent.
 Maidstone, Kent, Old Palace.
 Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.
 Manchester, Chetham's Hospital.

- Manchester, "Rover's Return"
 Inn.
 Marlborough, Wilts., School
 House, The College.
 Martley Church, Worcestershire.
 Merstham Church, Surrey.
 Midhurst, Sussex, Ruins, Cowdray
 Park.
 Minster Lovell, Oxon., House at.
 Mont Orgueil Castle, Jersey.
 Muchelney, Somerset, Old Priest's
 House.
 Newark Castle, Port Glasgow, N.B.
 Newport Castle, Mon.
 Northleigh, Oxon., Roman Villa.
 Northumberland, Roman Wall.
 Norwich, Norfolk, The Guildhall.
 Nun Upton, Salop.
 Nursling Church Tower, Hants.
 Old Malton Church, Yorks.
 Old Romney Parish Church, Kent.
 Oxford, Holywell Church.
 Oxford, St. Aldate's, Bishop
 King's House.
 Oxford, St. Bartholomew's Chapel.
 Oxford, St. John's College.
 Parracombe Old Church, Devon-
 shire.
 Pembrey Church, Carmarthen-
 shire.
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 Pinner, Middlesex, House at.
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 House, The Grammar School.
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 brokeshire.
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 Church.
 Rome, Aurelian Wall.
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 Romsey Abbey, Hants.
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 Edmunds, Suffolk.
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 Stones.
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 Cornwall.
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 Sampford Brett, Somerset,
 Cottages at.
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 Sefion Church, Lancs.
 Sherburn Church, Yorks.
 Sheriff Hutton Church, Yorks.
 Shutlington Church, Warwick-
 shire.
 Skenfrith Church, Mon.
 Southam Church, Warwickshire.
 Stamford, Lincs., St. Mary's
 Church Tower.
 Stapleford, Notts., Cross.
 Startforth Church, Yorks., Monu-
 ment.
 Staveley, Derbyshire, St. John's
 Church Tower.
 Stirling, N.B., West Church.
 Stocklinch Church, Somerset.
 Stoke Golding Church, Leicester-
 shire.
 Stratford-on-Avon Church, War-
 wickshire.
 Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire
 The Guild Chapel.
 Strixton Church, Northants.
 Tamworth Church, Staffs.
 Temple Bruer, Lincs., Ancient
 Tower.
 Tenterdon Church Tower, Kent.
 Tibberton Church, Glos.
 Tintern Abbey.
 Trent Church, Somerset.
 Uttoxeter Church Tower, Staffs.
 Wakefield Bridge, Yorks., Chapel
 on.
 Walthamstow, Essex, Water
 House.
 Walton on-the-Hill, Lancs.,
 Grammar School.

Wangfield, Curdridge, Hants.,
House at.
Warndon Church, Worcestershire.
Warwick, The Beauchamp Chapel,
St. Mary's Church.
West Drayton, Middlesex, St.
Martin's Church Tower.
West Ham Church Tower, Essex.
Westhorpe Church, Suffolk.
West Malling Abbey, Kent.
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West Walton Church, Norfolk.
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Whaplode Church, Lincs.
Whitby Abbey, Yorks.
Whitchurch Church, Bucks.
Wiggenhall, Norfolk, Church of
St. Mary Magdalen.

Wilmington Church Tower, Kent.
Winchester Cathedral, Hants.
Windsor, Berks., The Town Hall.
Winterbourne Thompson Church,
Dorset.
Worcester, The Commandery.
Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
Wrenbury Church, Cheshire.
York Minster.
York, St. Margaret's Archway,
Bootham.
York, St. Mary's Church Tower,
Bishophill Junior.
York, Porch, St. Margaret's
Church, Walmgate.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr. *Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1908.* **Cr.**

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at 31st December, 1907, as per last statement	108 9 3	By Payments during the year 1908:	
" Receipts during the year 1908:		Amounts received for the	
Donations	6 6 0	Crosby Hall Preservation	
Amount received for the		Fund returned to subscribers	19 9 0
Crosby Hall Preservation		National Trust, for Barrington	
Fund	83 15 4	Court Repair Fund, including	
Amount received for Barrington Court Repair Fund	5 15 0	sums originally received for the Crosby Hall Preservation Fund, but allowed by subscribers to be transferred	70 1 4
	95 16 4	Vicar of Watlington, Oxon, for Old Town Hall Repair Fund	2 2 0
		Vicar of Lilbourne, Rugby, for Church Repair Fund	2 2 0
			93 14 4
		" Cash at the London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1908	110 11 3
	<u>£204 5 7</u>		<u>£204 5 7</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

11th May, 1909.

WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1908.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, as per last statement -	60 12 5	By Bishop of Bath and Wells, for Glastonbury Abbey Fund -	5 0 0
„ Amount transferred from General Account -	60 0 0	„ Amount on Deposit, London City and Midland Bank -	117 1 8
„ Interest -	1 9 3		
	<u>61 9 3</u>		
	£122 1 8		<u>£122 1 8</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct

WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

11th May, 1909.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1908.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1907, as per last statement	-	16	8	8	By Payments during the year 1908:				
.. Receipts during the year 1908:					Printing	-	38	5	3
Annual Subscriptions	-	275	0	6	Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses	-	27	4	2
Donations	-	19	17	6	Members' Travelling Expenses	-	35	4	11½
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings and Sale of Reports	-	5	18	0	National Trust, Donation towards the cost of opposing the destruction of the Ironmongers' Almshouses, Shoreditch	-	15	0	0
Fees paid through the Society	-	12	12	0	Fees paid through the Society	-	12	12	0
Legacy	-	100	0	0	Secretary's Salary	-	120	0	0
				413	Clerk's Salary	-	91	0	0
				8	Rent of Office	-	25	0	0
				0	Transferred to Morris Fund	-	60	0	0
					Account	-			424
									6
									4½
					.. Cash at the London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1908	-	3	0	8
					.. Cash at Office	-	2	9	7½
									5
									10
									3½
									£429
									16
									8

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

Wm. SIMMONS, Auditor.

11th May, 1909.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION. £1 *is.* or 10s. 6d.

Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary, THACKERAY TURNER,
20, Buckingham Street, Adelphi.

Post Office Orders should be made payable at the General Post
Office. Cheques should be crossed "London City and Midland Bank."

Bankers:—London City and Midland Bank, Limited, 449, Strand,
W.C.

* These form the Committee.

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List of Members

III

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- Mrs. Lamb, *Borden Wood, Liphook.*

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- Charles Normand, 98, *Rue de Miromenil, Paris.* (Hon. Mem.)
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- Harold Peirce, 222, *Drexel Building, Philadelphia, U.S.A.*
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- Evacustes A. Phipson, 9, *Tithing, Worcester.*
- *G. T. Pilcher, *Treryn, Godalming.*
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- Miss Theodora Powell, *Munstead Rough, Godalming.*
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 H. Richardson, *Sigglesthorne, Marlborough.*
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 W. Graham Robertson, 28, *Rutland Gate, S.W.*
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 Vincent J. Robinson, F.S.A., *Parnham, near Beaminster, Dorset.*
 E. F. Robson.
- *T. M. Rooke, R.W.S., 7, *Queen Anne's Gardens, Bedford Park, Chiswick.*
- *W. Rothenstein, 11, *Oak Hill Park, Frognaal, N.W.*
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 F. G. Rücker, *New Court, Temple.*
 Archibald G. B. Russell, 53, *Upper Brook Street, W.*
 Henry A. Rye, *The Hayes, Bakewell, Derbyshire.*
 H. Davis Rye, *The Hayes, Bakewell, Derbyshire.*
 The Lady Margaret Sackville, *Inchmery, Exbury, Southampton.*
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 Frank Sanguinetti, *Ealing Dean, W.*
 S. H. Scott, *The Yews, Windermere.*
 Miss Scull, *St. Edmund's, Worsley Road, Hampstead, N.W.*
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 Gilbert Sheldon, *High Park, Bideford.*
 Miss L. Sheldon, *High Park, Bideford.*
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 Mrs. Alexander Trotter, 1, *Campden Hill Square, W.*
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 Mrs. Fisher Unwin, *Oatscroft, Heyshott, Midhurst, Sussex.*
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 *William Weir, *Morningside, Station Road, Winchmore Hill, N.*
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 R. Douglas Wells, 171, *Queen's Gate, S.W.*
 Denham Westmacot, 1, *Whitehall Place, S.W.*
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 Arthur Wightman, *Bank Chambers, George Street, Sheffield.*

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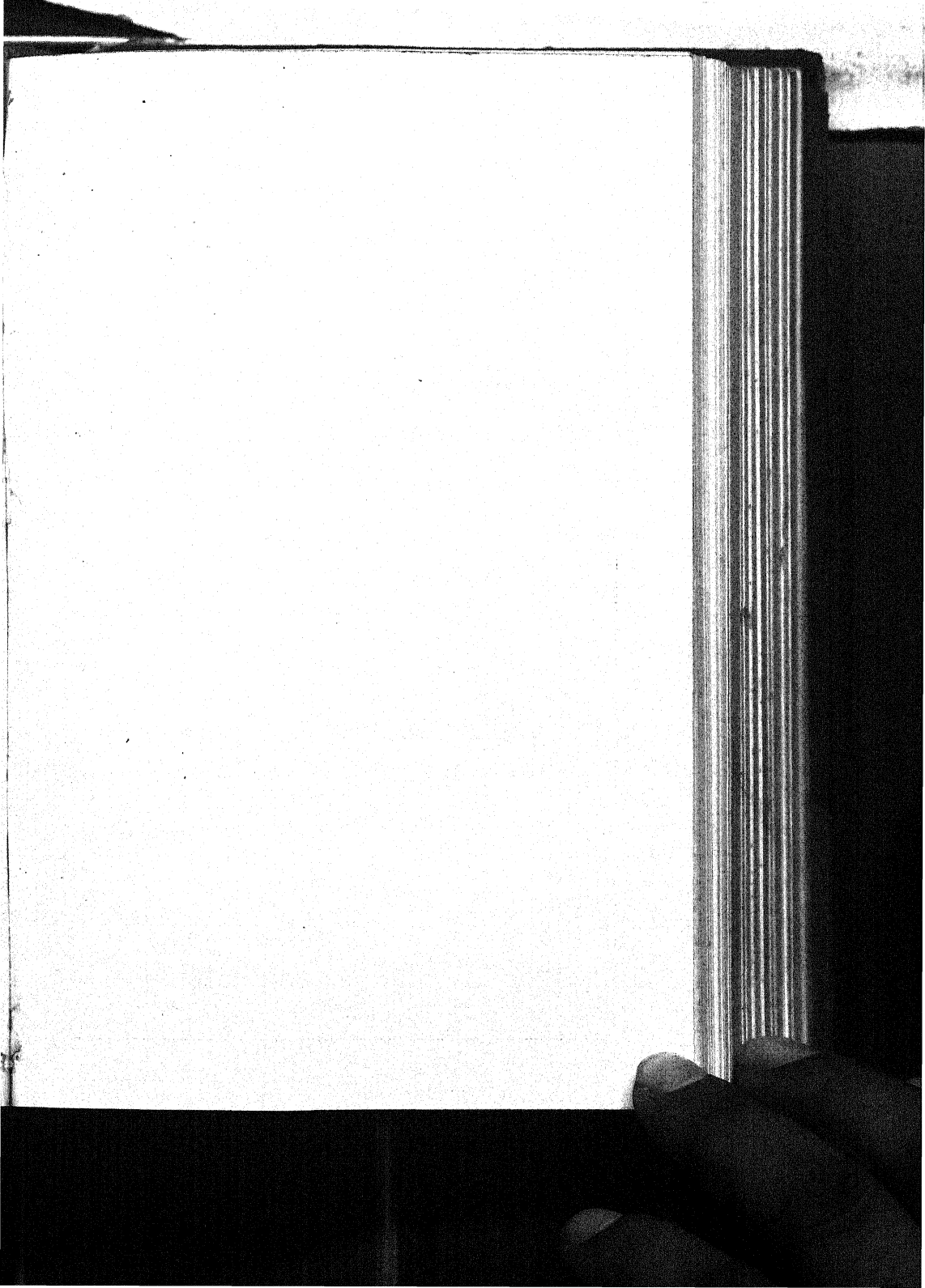
- Norman Wilkinson, 55A, *Bedford Gardens, Campden Hill, W.*
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 Count Zorzi, *Venice.* (Hon. Mem.)

If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following Members :

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Frank Dillon. | H. Thornhill Timmins. |
| Hon. Gerald Ponsonby. | William Ward. |
| Essex E. Reade (Hon. Sec.). | Sir Thomas Wardle. |
| Mrs. Winkworth. | |





WEST STOW HALL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS,
SUFFOLK; AFTER REPAIR.

*By kind permission of
the Earl Cadogan, K.G.*

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION
OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS. THIRTY-
THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE; AND PAPER READ BY
H.H. PRINCE FREDERICK DULEEP
SINGH, M.V.O., F.S.A., AT THE
GENERAL MEETING, JUNE, 1910.

THACKERAY TURNER, SECRETARY,
20, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND,
LONDON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

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THACKERAY TURNER, F.S.A., 20, Buckingham St., Strand, W.C.

ANNUAL REPORT.

IN presenting the thirty-third annual report the Committee would invite attention to the increasing number of cases where the Society's advice has either been sought, or when offered welcomed; and to those again where under the Society's directions valuable buildings have been saved from ruin, for the enjoyment of this and of future generations. The Committee is inclined to think that the work done by the Society in this regard is overlooked by the general public, and that knowledge of its operations is chiefly confined to the letters of protest which appear in the public press.

Turning to cases of a different kind, it will be marked how want of apprehension of the value of old work is still only too prevalent a cause of its destruction, and it will be clear that to cope with this most constant watchfulness and promptitude of action are necessary. Early information as to schemes of "restoration" and enlargement, whilst they are yet in their infancy, is of the greatest moment; for the nearer to maturity such schemes are advanced the greater is the difficulty of intervention, and the more remote the chance of their frustration; till at length, when once a building contract is entered into, there remains little that can usefully be done by the Society save to give publicity to the facts, in the hope that those who through the want of knowledge may be projecting similar schemes may be induced to modify their views, and so reconsider their intended course of action.

The Globe Room, The Reindeer Inn, Banbury, Oxon.

The announcement that an offer of purchase had been made to the owners of the Reindeer Inn for the well-known historic Globe Room, with a view to its removal and erection elsewhere, and the building of a "replica" to take its place, aroused consternation in those interested in the preservation of ancient buildings.

The Committee has taken such action as it could ; and it hopes that the Reindeer Inn will be acquired either by the Corporation of Banbury, or by some other public body, so that its preservation may be assured.

It would be an indelible disgrace if so unsurpassed an example of a Jacobean room were allowed to be taken away from the country.

Bag Enderby Church, Lincolnshire.

The parish of Bag Enderby is united to that of Somersby, and the Church was visited at the time when Somersby Church, referred to later in this report, was surveyed by the Society.

Bag Enderby Church is a building of considerable interest ; it has a chancel, nave, south porch and western tower. It dates apparently from about the end of the fourteenth century. Unfortunately the fabric is much dilapidated, and services have not been held in it for some time past.

To save it, attention is urgently needed ; and in a report furnished by the Society it is estimated that the repairs necessary could be effected for £1,000.

The Committee trusts it may be found possible again to use the Church, and that the custodians will see their way to make an effort to raise at least the sum needed to make the building structurally sound.

Bledlow Church, Buckinghamshire.

During the year, the repair of this Church, which was in progress at the time of the issue of the last report (p. 16), has been completed.

The tower is open to the Church on the north, east, and south, by pointed archways; and the abutments of these had given, cracking the walls on the north and south right up to the top. This has been rectified by constructing a relieving lintel of brickwork about three feet deep, in the thickness of the north and south walls at the level of the first floor, and by rebonding together the sound walling on either side of the cracks, working from the inside face.

The pointing of the tower has been attended to, and the stonework of the windows, quoins and string courses repaired. The roof timbers have been mended and strengthened, and the lead covering overhauled.

New beams of English oak replace those supporting the bell-frame, which were decayed; the bell-frame has been repaired, and the bells quarter-turned and re-hung. In the belfry openings oak louvres have been fitted, and the windows of the ringing chamber reglazed with leaded lights. The flooring of the chamber has been renewed with English oak boards, and the beams repaired and strengthened.

On the south face of the tower a new clock dial has been fixed, and the works of the clock have been repaired.

On removing the modern plaster from the outside wall-surfaces, the chancel walls and the abutments of the chancel arch were seen to be in need of attention. The cracks in them, and in the walls of the north and south aisles and the south porch, have been repaired and the walls repointed.

Where rotted, the wall plates of the roof have been renewed with English oak, and generally made sound.

Most of the interior plastering is modern, but on the nave arcade are fragments of old wall paintings. The remaining old plaster was examined for further paintings but none were found; so those which exist were carefully cleaned and preserved and the rest of the plastering limewhitened.

To form a vestry, the west end of the north aisle has been enclosed by a screen-work of English oak; and new doors have been hung in the west doorway. In the south porch, gates of wrought iron have been substituted for the deal doors, and the oak entrance doors on the north and south have been cleaned of encrusted paint.

The works were carried out by local workmen under the personal direction of the Architect, in consultation with the Society.

The Old Guild Hall, Boston, Lincolnshire.

This fine old Guild Hall dates from the middle of the fifteenth century. The Guild, that of St. Mary, was dissolved in 1547. The property is now held by the Governors of Boston Grammar School, and they appealed to the Society for a report.

The Guild Hall is a brick building, twenty-four feet wide and 194 feet in length, externally; the west front faces the street. On the ground floor is an entrance hall, with a staircase at the east end leading to the first floor. Beyond are the old police cells, with the kitchen. The first floor comprises the Guildhall, with the staircase leading beyond; the Court Room and the Mayor's Parlour; and another room at the back of the building, which appears to have been connected with the kitchen underneath, and which at the east end has a large fireplace.

The roof is covered with handmade tiles, is high-pitched and has a gable at each end. The west gable, that facing the street, is finished with a stone coping, flanked with square stone pedestals at the base and a niche or finial at the apex, of which the greater part is missing. A large five-light sixteenth-century window fills the whole of the gable above the string course at the first floor level; below is the entrance doorway, flanked on either hand by a window.

Structurally the building is fairly sound, with the exception of the roof tiling, and of the south wall near the east end, which is bulging; but many works of general repair are necessary.

A detailed report was forwarded to the Trustees, and the Committee understands it has been handed to a firm of builders, though owing to lack of funds at present not more than a small part of the work can be undertaken.

The Committee has urged the importance of the operations being carried out under the immediate supervision of some one who has had experience in similar repairs to ancient buildings, and so has the knowledge necessary to enable him to direct the workmen.

Branscombe Church, Devon.

There is a prospect of some works being undertaken at this most beautiful Church, a view of which was given in the report for 1906. The Committee is in correspondence with the Vicar, who has recently come into residence, and the building has been visited.

The Priory, Burford, Oxon.

For some years the attention of the Society has been turned to the old Priory at Burford, and it has been

visited several times. The building was acquired by the present owner, Colonel B. de Sales La Terrière, in 1908, and he has had many works of repair done to it. These have been inspected, and it is of great satisfaction to the Committee to report that their nature and the methods employed are such as would have been adopted by the Society.

The Committee feels that all lovers of ancient buildings are deeply indebted to Colonel La Terrière for what he has done in the preservation of so valuable an ancient building.

Chalton Church, Hants.

A description of the Church was given in the last report (pp. 20-3) and the works of repair, which were stated to be then in progress under the personal direction of an Architect in consultation with the Society, have now been brought to completion.

The tower was badly cracked and bulged, and owing to the peculiar configuration of the ground, which has a gradual fall towards the west of the Church, where it suddenly drops eight feet, it was conjectured that there might have been movement in the foundations. Upon exposing them, however, this was found not to be the case, as they rested firmly on the solid chalk; and the damage was traced to the abutments of the large west doorway in the tower which, at the angles of the tower, had given way and left the masonry above the dislocated work without proper support. In modern times the opening had been built up, to a degree relieving the abutments; but nothing further had been done.

The present works were begun by erecting around the tower a scaffold entirely free of contact with the masonry.

Next, the damaged work was solidly rebonded together by working from the inside face of the wall towards the outside, in small heights at a time, using lias lime mortar. The work was strengthened generally by constructing, at stages in the thickness of the wall, three lintels of brickwork.

Then the flintwork facing was cleaned down and re-pointed with lias lime mortar. The roof timbers have been repaired, the cast-lead guttering made sound, and the roof covered with hand-made tiles, instead of the modern blue slates. The bells have been rehung with new bearings on a new frame of seasoned English oak supported by oak bearers ; a new oak floor fixed underneath ; and another in the ringing chamber ; the ground floor repaired with hand-made paving bricks laid on a bed of cement concrete with hard-core under it ; and ladders have been provided for access to the ringing chamber and belfry.

The works to the Church were, the repairs to the cracks in the chancel-wall,—due to thrust from the modern pitch-pine roof,—and the insertion of two stout tie-beams of English oak bolted to the wall-plates ; overhauling the roof tiling, which is of hand-made tiles ; and putting right the iron gutters and down pipes.

Cherington Church, Shipston-on-Stour.

Some works were carried out to this building in 1909. Recently the Rector expressed his willingness to receive advice from the Society as to the portions of the Church not dealt with then, and so it was surveyed and a report sent to him.

The repairs required are confined to the chancel, the north porch, the hanging of the bells, and the exterior surface of the walls.

The Rector has informed the Committee that he quite agrees with the views set forth in the report, but fears it will be difficult to raise funds to carry out the recommendations contained in it.

The Committee trusts nevertheless that the difficulty may be overcome, and that the amount required, *viz.*, £425, may be obtained.

Christchurch Priory Church, Hants.

It was rumoured that this noble building had been the subject of "restoration," and the Committee therefore arranged for two of its professional members to meet at the Church the local Architect, who was acting under the advice and superintendence of a well-known London Architect.

Our members reported that, on the whole, the fabric was being well taken care of, and that nothing serious in the way of "restoration" had been perpetrated recently. The things which have been done were those of urgent necessity; and they have been well done, although, probably, if carried out under the Society's auspices they would have been done rather differently.

Since the Society's visit, a new Vicar has been appointed, and at the recent Easter vestry he is reported to have said, "Let them make the chancel as perfect an expression of an old monk's chancel as they could, so that it might seem, as they looked at it, as if the monks had lived only yesterday."

The Committee trusts that this does not mean that the Vicar favours "restoration," for if this should be the case it would be the duty of the Society to offer the strongest opposition.

Churchover Church Tower, Rugby.

About twelve years ago the fourteenth-century Church at Churchover was so extensively rebuilt that the only parts left were the tower, the south arcade of the nave and the south doorway.

At the request of the Rector the tower was surveyed. It stands at the west of the nave, is about ten feet six inches square inside, and about fifty feet high. Above is a graceful octagonal spire. About twenty-five years ago the top of this was rebuilt, and a weather-vane and lightning conductor added.

The walls of the tower, which seem to be sound, are of thin coursed stone, pointed both inside and out: patches of modern plaster, with which some years ago it was evidently covered, still remain.

The bottom storey has a wide east archway and a three-light west window. The first floor, reached by an iron ladder in the north-west angle, is eighteen feet high. Here are the works of the clock. In the walls on the north, south, and west are narrow square-headed windows. The north wall is cracked right up through the parapet. The belfry floor is thirteen feet nine inches higher; in each wall there is a good two-light opening with a pointed and traceried head. In the east opening the central part of the tracery is missing, and the mullion is secured in a make-shift way; the others are generally sound. Of the four bells, the tenor is pre-Reformation, the third is dated 1805, and the other two 1622. They are hung on an oak frame, free of the walls and in good condition, but unfortunately it is raised some feet above the floor level and supported on four beams, the two in the middle resting on a nine-inch wall built on the sills of the north and south belfry windows. This has brought the head of the frame so high that the corners have been

cut away under the angle corbelling, and it is held together only by iron straps. The parapet is disjointed, and all sides of the spire are cracked. That the cause is the vibration from the ringing of the bells in their present position, is clear from the fact that there is no sign of settlement of the foundations.

The lead gutter behind the parapet is worn, the falls are insufficient, and the lead flashing loose. The external pointing is imperfect and wet comes into the walling.

Thus it will be seen there is urgent need of attention. A report was sent to the Rector, which he acknowledged. Since then, however, the Committee learns that he has resigned the living; so, until the new Rector comes into residence, the question is in abeyance.

Ruins of Cowdray House, Midhurst, Sussex.

The property, of which Cowdray House forms a part, has lately changed hands, and much anxiety was expressed lest the ruins should suffer in consequence. They were therefore visited; and it was with much relief that the Committee was able to give a public assurance that concern for their welfare need no longer be felt.

The ruins stand in Cowdray Park, and are approached from the Midhurst Road by a fine bridge over the river Rother. The house was built by Sir William Fitzwilliam, K.G., Earl of Southampton, but later much was added by his half-brother, Sir Anthony Browne. It was the seat of the Montague family. Unfortunately it was burnt down in 1793.

The ruins are very extensive, and of great interest as showing the arrangement of a sixteenth-century house. Also they are architecturally of great charm. For many years however they have been falling to pieces owing to

want of protection, and to ravages caused by ivy.

The present owner, Sir Weetman Pearson, has come to the rescue in a most liberal spirit. The ivy is being killed; tottering walls have been strengthened, and their tops protected from the weather; floors over vaulting have been made watertight; and ugly cracks bonded across. At the same time the work has been done without falsifying the history of the building by so-called "restoration."

The public are allowed access under reasonable conditions; and we believe there is an idea of forming a museum for West Sussex. This, with advantage to the ruins, could be done by roofing the kitchen tower with a flat roof and using the two upper floors.

Whitgift Hospital, Croydon, Surrey.

On more than one occasion the destruction of this beautiful and historic group of buildings has been averted by the action of this and other Societies. Recently a determined effort was made to bring about the removal of the Almshouses, and it was proposed by the Borough Council to introduce into Parliament a Bill authorising their destruction for a street widening.

It was urged in opposition that, putting aside any question of sentiment, the town could not afford the enormous expenditure which would be involved by the adoption of the scheme; and that additional street accommodation, if proved to be necessary, could be obtained by an alternative which would leave the Hospital intact. A scheme on these lines was prepared by the Whitgift Hospital Preservation Committee, in consultation with the Society.

The matter was considered by a special meeting of the Borough Council,—required by statute for the

promotion of a Bill in Parliament,—and, on a division, twenty-five voted for the Bill and twenty-nine against.

The success of the efforts put forth is due largely to the work of the local Committee. The action of His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, and that of the Lord Bishop of Lewes, were also of very material assistance.

The Committee trusts that no further proposal will be made for the demolition of the buildings; and it hopes that the fact that the Hospital will be included in the list of buildings in the county of Surrey most worthy of preservation, now in course of preparation by the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments, will give pause to those who have been most energetic in advocating their removal.

Bridge, Croyland, Lincolnshire.

This fine ancient bridge was visited. It was found to be quite sound structurally, but in need of many minor repairs.

The masonry is of Barnack stone, in excellent condition; portions of the facing near the ground level, however, are loose and require refixing. In places it has been patched with hand-made bricks; they are of good colour, and should not be disturbed.

The parapets are bulged and want repointing; and the iron cramps of the moulded coping, which have corroded and burst off portions of the stone, should be seen to. Wet appears to be coming through the stone paving on top of the arches, and the pointing of the masonry is in need of attention.

A report was sent to the Croyland District Council; and it is hoped that the necessary repairs will be carried out, under proper supervision.

Old Windmill, Croylana, Lincolnshire.

This building was inspected when the old bridge was visited. It is a picturesque feature, and the landscape would lose greatly by its destruction.

The mill has not been used for some years, but is still generally sound; the weatherboarding of the upper part and the roof and circular wall of the lower, however, are in need of attention.

It is estimated that a small expenditure of £15 or £20 would cover the necessary repairs; but the Committee fears that local interest is not sufficient to justify its hoping that even this sum will be forthcoming.

Digby Church, Lincolnshire.

The Rector expressed his willingness to receive advice as to the treatment of certain portions of Digby Church—which, though small, is of considerable interest—and it was therefore visited.

It consists of a chancel, a nave, north and south aisles, south porch and western tower. The north aisle extends to the western face of the tower, and there serves as a vestry. The fabric is chiefly of thirteenth-century date, but unfortunately the chancel was rebuilt about thirty years ago. However, it still retains its thirteenth-century three-light east window.

At the west end of the south aisle there is a good fifteenth-century font on a raised stone platform.

The tower is of thirteenth-century construction, up to the belfry. The belfry stage and the spire appear to have been added early in the fifteenth century. In the belfry are three bells, dated respectively 1656, 1759 and 1822, hung on an oak frame, which is in bad condition, and in *close contact* with the north and south walls. The walls

of the staircase are cracked from the ground upwards and the surfaces of the stone steps are worn.

The roofs of the nave, aisles and porch, which were over-hauled last year, appear to be in good condition.

The walls generally are sound, but there are some cracks in the clerestory.

A report was sent to the Rector, pointing out the need for certain works of repair; for a new bell-frame of seasoned English oak; for quarter-turning the bells, and rehanging them with new fittings; and he has informed the Committee that he is in entire agreement with the recommendations.

Sackville College, East Grinstead, Sussex.

Reference was made to this building in the reports for 1907 (p. 26) and 1908 (p. 26).

A new Warden was appointed in 1909, and he, at his own expense, has carried out a large amount of work at the building.

The Committee is not at present in a position to express an opinion upon what has been done; but it would desire to place upon record that the work was not carried out under the auspices of the Society, and that it is in no way responsible for it.

East Harling Church Spire, Norfolk.

This spire is in need of repair, and a report upon its condition was presented to the Rector.

The spire and the lantern under it are well constructed of oak framing. The supporting beams rest on the top of the four walls of the tower, and about fifty years ago oak struts were placed under them, evidently with the object of relieving the belfry windows of some

of the weight. Around the lantern are detached posts, with crocketed pinnacles, and from them to the lantern are oak flying-buttresses.

The covering of the spire is cast lead, but at the base of the lantern, and at the bottom part of two of the posts, the old lead, at some time or other, has been replaced by modern milled lead.

Generally, the lantern and spire are sound. The recommendations included the erection of a scaffolding round the lantern; the removal of the lead covering, to admit of strengthening and repairing the joints between the pinnacles and the posts; the substitution of cast lead for the milled lead on the two posts; and the provision of a lightning conductor.

In the belfry there is a good peal of six, hung on an oak bell-cage. The joints of the cage had worked loose, and it had become rickety. As a makeshift, *wedges had been driven between the cage-timbers and the wall.*

The report pointed out that this wedging nullifies the whole object of the cage, which is to act as a "buffer" between the bells and walls, the elasticity of the vertical timbers absorbing the vibration set up in ringing, and so preventing possible cracking of the more rigid masonry.

The report recommended the removal of the wedges; the provision of iron plates to strengthen the joints of the bell-cage, and of iron bolts to secure it to the bearers upon which it rests; also that the bells should be quarter-turned and re-hung on new gunmetal bearings and furnished with new fittings.

The Rector has informed the Committee that it is hoped to carry out the works recommended; and the Committee trusts that they may be taken in hand before long.

Elmswell Church, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

This Church has a chancel; nave, with north and south aisles; south porch; and a western tower, of exceptional interest.

The chancel, and the nave, which has a fine arcade of five bays on the south side, appear to have been built in the fourteenth century. The massive tower was probably added a century later, at the same time as the nave clerestory. The south aisle and porch are probably of date contemporary with the nave; but, owing to an unfortunate "restoration" about 1872, there remains little of the original work on which to base an opinion. At about that time, too, the north aisle was added; the north wall of the nave rebuilt; an arcade formed in imitation of the south arcade; and an organ chamber and vestry built on the north side of the chancel.

Although the Church was "restored" so recently, many works of repair are now needed. These were set out in a report sent to the Rector, which, it is hoped, will be acted upon. The works recommended demand constant personal direction by the Architect, as in no other way could they be done satisfactorily.

Exeter Cathedral.

Since the last report the following letter from the Society has appeared in the public press:

SIR,—The Dean and Chapter of Exeter, after six years' silence, during which time they have been busily engaged in removing the ancient stonework of the west front of their Cathedral and replacing it by imitative work, have now issued a lengthy statement "in explanation and defence of the steps they have taken to preserve the fabric of the Cathedral." They state that £80,907 has been spent during the last thirty-five years, and that they are now wanting £7,000 more.

They further state that in dealing with the west front three courses were open to them. (1) To do nothing, which of course would obviously be wrong. (2) To treat the stone with preservatives, but that the nature of the stone forbade this. (3) To follow the advice of the greatest architectural authority of the day (the late Mr. Pearson, R.A.), and to cut out the decaying canopies and replace them with imitative work. The Dean and Chapter attach great value to the opinion of the late Mr. Pearson. We consider this unreasonable, inasmuch as he died in 1897, and no one at that time had seriously turned their attention to the preserving or protecting qualities of either baryta or lime.

The Dean and Chapter proclaim that nothing would induce them to touch the magnificent sculpture, and that they are renewing the canopy work in order to protect the sculpture. They assert, without giving any proof, that no preservative will save the stone, and yet they seem to think, though why it is impossible to understand, that by their renewal of the canopies the stone figures will cease to decay. They apparently do not read the *Times*, where, in a leading article, it says: "Gothic architecture was a growth not a game, and an imitation Gothic building is as little like a real one as an imitation tree is like a real one; that is to say, it has a superficial resemblance, but lacks all the qualities which make the original beautiful and interesting."

We know by practical experience that the application of lime will check the decay of stone, and stone similar to that used at Exeter. We also know that the ancient canopies removed from the west front of Exeter Cathedral were of good sound stone only superficially decayed. Further we know that the public give unqualified approval to the repairs recently carried out at the noble garden front of St. John's College, Oxford—of world-wide fame—where, I believe, not a single new piece of stone has been used.

The Dean and Chapter, it seems, refuse to know anything about what is going on, and apparently argue

that the more money expended the more virtue there is in the work. Moreover, they rest on the opinion of a man who died long ago; they make the assertion that the stone canopies could not be preserved, without giving any proof, and ask for more money to complete their destructions. Surely this is one of the saddest chapters in the history of English architecture.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
THACKERAY TURNER, *Secretary*.

October 15th, 1909.

In spite of the many protests made by those qualified to form an opinion, the work of "restoration" is being proceeded with; the £7,000 required for the purpose having been obtained. Thus, because it is possible to raise a sum of money, the west front of one of England's most valuable ancient buildings is to be deprived of its authentic character by the removal of genuine work and the substitution of that which, at the best, can only profess to be a copy of the ancient work which it replaces; and, as will have been seen from the Society's report (pp. 27-8 Annual Report, 1908), the new stonework is not even a moderately faithful copy of the old.

Fincham Church, Norfolk.

This building, of which a description was given in the last report, has been repaired in accordance with the Society's usual method, the Architect personally directing the workmen.

The condition of the nave roof, which is of hammer-beam construction, was most critical, owing to damage due to the wet which had come through the lead covering. The ends of the principals, hammer-beams and rafters, were more or less rotted, and the wall-plates had completely decayed; in fact, the roof was only kept up by its friction against the walls, which in the clerest-

tory were cracked and pushed outwards by the strain. The two principals in the middle were broken through and in danger of falling.

The repairs were effected as follows. First, scaffolding was erected inside as high as the underside of the roof, and the old lead and boarding were removed in sections. Then the timbers were dealt with in position, by thoroughly repairing them and strengthening them where necessary with seasoned English oak, scarfed and bolted to the sound parts. New wall-plates of English oak were provided and fixed in position under the hammer beams supporting the principal rafters.

The roof over the south aisle was also made sound. Cracks in the walls were repaired by rebonding together the sound work on either side, working from the inside face of the wall.

Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.

The Committee considers the position with regard to the works which are being carried out at Glastonbury Abbey is unsatisfactory. It has had some correspondence with the Bishop of Bath and Wells on the subject; and, in a letter to his Lordship, it pointed out that the work done since its visit last year (which was referred to in the last report, p. 46), seemed almost to force upon it the conclusion that the ultimate intention of the Custodians is to bring the ruins, or a portion of them, back into use; and it ventured to plead for an assurance on this important point.

The Bishop replied stating that the work in question was that of preservation only, but it had been done in such a manner as to cause the least possible difficulty should it ever be determined in the far-off future to restore any one part of the ruins.

The Committee wrote again expressing regret that bringing the building back into use should be contemplated. His Lordship replied that the Trustees had no intention whatever of bringing the building back into use.

The Committee is, of course, bound to accept the assurance of the Bishop that the *present* Trustees have no such intention, but it cannot lose sight of the fact that the works are being so carried out as to make it easy for future Trustees to "restore" the ruins.

The Committee feels it would be difficult to justify the expenditure of money raised for the repair of the ruins, as such, upon work not required for that purpose.

The Old Hall, Groby, Leicester.

At the request of the owner, this building was surveyed by the Society and a full description given to her of the works which should be done.

Of the Old Hall, built at the beginning of the fifteenth century, there remains but little; the present house, which stands next to it on the north, dates from the sixteenth or seventeenth century; the interior, however, has been completely modernised, and has been added to on the north side.

The Society's report chiefly concerned the remains of the Old Hall. They consist of two brick towers, spaced apart, in line with the front of the house, with a curtain wall between them, and another between the south tower and the house.

The Committee understands that the works of repair recommended will be undertaken soon.

Castle Gateway House, Guildford, Surrey.

This house was referred to in the 1898 report (pp. 30-3). A few months since proposals were made for additions

to the building, involving the removal of the old high wall which encloses the gardens and forms the boundary of Quarry Street; and plans prepared for this purpose were inspected, on behalf of the Society, with the result that a communication was addressed to the Town Council, and a letter explaining the position sent to the *Surrey Advertiser* and the *Surrey Times*, and published in those papers on 31 July, 1909.

The Society's view that the removal of the wall would be a grievous misfortune received influential support locally, and the Committee is glad to report that the authorities have decided in favour of the retention of the greater part of it.

Hanborough Church, Oxon.

The works of repair to this building, to which reference was made in the last report (p. 50), are now in progress under the auspices of the Society, and the Committee hopes to give a description of them in the next report.

Ilmington Church, Shipston-on-Stour.

This Church was recently reported upon at the wish of the Rector. It is of Norman foundation, and consists of a chancel; nave, with north and south transepts, the latter rebuilt in 1846; south porch and western tower. The walls are of sandstone, and inside are covered with modern plaster jointed in imitation of stone. The roof covering is cast lead, excepting on the chancel, where it is of machine-made tiles of a blueish colour. There is a modern vestry on the north side of the chancel. The north transept appears to have been added in the fourteenth century; the roof of the south transept is modern. The south porch is a fifteenth-century

addition. The belfry stage appears to have been added to the Norman tower in the fourteenth century. It contains a peal of five bells hung on an oak frame. Unfortunately, they have been rehung, and have had the cannons cut off and are strapped up to the stocks with bolts through their crowns.

The fabric generally is sound, with the exception of the masonry of the tower and porch, which shows surface decay.

The Rector has informed the Society that he considers the report to be excellent in its tone and recommendations, and he is anxious to carry out the works under the Society's auspices as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained.

This is a case which the Committee can strongly recommend to members of the Society for support.

Old Grammar School, King's Norton, Worcestershire.

This timber-framed building was described in the report for 1891 (pp. 21-2).

Some works of repair have recently been carried out in consultation with a professional member of the Society. In the west gable the oak framing was sadly dilapidated; and there each piece of timber has been examined and where possible patched, repaired, and allowed to remain. The roof has been stripped and retiled with the old tiles as far as they would go, the deficiency being made up with old tiles from elsewhere. The slight inequalities of the surfaces have been allowed to remain. An external open stone staircase has been built, on brick walls, to take the place of a staircase and some outbuildings, added about fifty or sixty years ago, which had become ruinous and had partly fallen down.

The Committee considers that by these works the life

of this interesting building will undoubtedly be greatly prolonged.

Little Malvern Priory Church, Worcestershire.

For some years the Society has interested itself in the preservation of this most valuable building, and recently, at the invitation of the authorities, the Church was visited by a professional member and a report sent to them.

The building will require very careful treatment if it is not to lose in interest.

London, Old Church Tower, Hackney.

This interesting tower is the only part of the old Parish Church which remains. It appears to have been built towards the close of the fifteenth century.

The Committee learnt that the Hackney Borough Council were contemplating works, and, as a result of correspondence with them, the building was surveyed.

The walls do not appear to have been touched since they were built, but the tracery and mullions of the belfry windows, as well as various copings of the buttresses and one or two stones of other parts, are modern. The surface of the stonework is, unfortunately, badly decayed.

These are in urgent need of repair; the stonework particularly requires pointing and protecting from the injurious effects of the gases in the atmosphere.

The Committee learns, from the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, that a question as to ownership has arisen. It is to be hoped this will be settled without delay, and that the works required to preserve and protect the tower, which is an authentic and tangible part of Hackney as it existed in times past, will be carried out before the decay is further advanced.

London. Sir Robert Geffery's Almshouses, Kingsland Road, Shoreditch.

In the last report (pp. 57-8) it was stated that the Ironmongers' Company had appealed to the Law Courts to override the decision of the Charity Commissioners with regard to these Almshouses, and that the Court had ordered a further enquiry.

The Committee deeply regrets to have to report that an application made to the Court on behalf of the Societies interested, to be allowed to be represented at the enquiry, was refused with costs, and that the judge has given permission for the removal of the Almshouses.

The London County Council has moved with a view to acquiring the site as an open space; and the Committee trusts, in the event of the action of the Council being successful, that these valuable buildings will be allowed to remain and be utilised for some useful purpose.

Owen Glyndwr's Parliament House, Machynlleth.

It was in this building that Owen Glyndwr held the Parliament which he summoned. It had been turned into cottages, but, a short time since, it was bought by Mr. David Davies, M.P., with the intention of incorporating it in a scheme for providing a Reading Room and Club.

The Committee communicated with Mr. David Davies, and he accepted its offer of a visit by one of its professional members. At the time of the visit the modern fittings and floors, which had divided the building into separate cottages, had already been cleared away, and

the plaster removed from the inner and outer surfaces of the walls.

The building is about fifty-eight feet long and twenty-two feet six inches wide, measured internally. The walls are of local stone, in thin courses, bedded in clay or earth mixed with chopped straw. In the front wall abutting on the street are the remains of the arches and jambs of two doorways and three or four windows. In the upper part of the wall are four modern window openings made in the conversion into cottages.

The oak timbers of the roof are in fair preservation, with the exception of one principal rafter.

A modern cross-wall, which still remains, divides the building into two and supports the purlins and ridge-piece of the roof, in place of a missing principal. The second principal from the east end and the corresponding one at the west end of the building, are framed with a tie-beam, morticed on the top and underside to receive upright posts, and grooved for boarding, which suggests that originally the building was divided into three rooms: the other principals of the roof are without tie-beams. Under the second principal from the west there is a horizontal beam across the building at a height of about seven feet above the floor, supported on two upright posts, which would appear to have formed the doorway.

The roof is covered with thick local slates of good colour and texture. The wall at the back of the building retains traces of window openings, and close to the west angle, there is a doorway at the first floor level, which was probably reached by an outside staircase. This doorway may have given access to an upper floor in the compartment at this end of the building.

In the eastern half of the wall is another doorway with

a pointed arch in good preservation. At either end of the building is a portion of an old wall, apparently contemporary with the building, possibly part of the garden wall.

In the east wall there is a large open fireplace, which appears to have undergone several alterations. The chimney stack above the east gable is modern, but that over the west gable appears to be fairly old, though there are no traces of an old fireplace.

About fifteen feet east of the main building is another building, about eighteen feet wide and forty feet long, of date contemporary with it, and which seems to have been connected to it. It is built of stone, and is covered with a modern roof, continuous with that of the main building. A large doorway has been put in the front wall, and filled with modern doors, and there is a corresponding opening in the back wall opposite. There do not appear to be any window openings other than narrow slits flanking the doorways in the front and back walls.

The Committee has much pleasure in stating that it has been informed that the suggestions in the report which it sent to Mr. David Davies, M.P., are to be adopted.

Malinslee Chapel, Salop.

It is with deep regret that the Committee has to report the proposal to "restore" the remains of the interesting Norman Chapel at Malinslee; and it is concerned to learn from the public press that the proposition has the support of the Shropshire Archæological Society.

The ruins, which were visited, consist of the west gable with a window in it; a similar window in the re-

mains of the north wall of the nave; and two windows in those of the east end of the chancel, with a niche between them for a figure—probably unique. There are two sedilia in the southern wall of the chancel.

The total length of the Chapel is about forty-six feet, and the chancel (divided by a screen wall) is eleven feet wide by eighteen feet long.

The Committee communicated with the Vicar and urged that, in the event of its having been decided to "restore" the ruins, the question should be further considered. He replied to the effect that the proposal to restore the Chapel grew in the first place out of an intense desire to perpetuate the interest and beauty it now possesses and the need for further Church accommodation. He added, dealing with the question of restoration: "Whatever mistakes may have been made in the past I hope to make this 'forgery' so true to the original that if its builder were to visit it again he would see his very own handiwork, the only strange thing being the environment."

The Committee in answer urged that if a replica was wished for, one should be erected on another site,—contiguous to the site of the remains of the ancient Chapel, if desired,—and it expressed the opinion that any attempt to "restore" the present remains of the Chapel could only result in the loss of the value they now possess as records of the past.

It is regrettable to find that anyone should consider it possible to make in the *twentieth century* "the very own handiwork" of the *Norman* builders, and it is to be hoped that the idea of "restoring" the building will be abandoned. What is needed is that the tops of the ruined walls should be properly protected so as to prevent the wet penetrating and causing further disintegration.

Merstham Church, Surrey.

The report for 1909 (pp. 60-1) gave a description of the Church and stated that it was about to be prepared under the personal supervision of an Architect acting in consultation with the Society. The work has now been done by the hands of local workmen. The chief items were arresting the surface decay of the outside masonry; rebonding the chancel arch, its piers and abutments; repairing the walls of the south porch; underpinning the angle buttresses at the east end of the chancel; and renewing the drains and constructing a surface channel round the building. Also, the interior of the tower was rearranged, the ground floor was lowered to its original level, and the modern staircase which partly blocked the tower arch was removed. Finally, the plastered walls and roof were cleaned and limewhited.

The Litten Chapel, Newbury, Berks.

This interesting mediæval building, formerly the Chapel of the Grammar School, was recently reported upon.

It is in urgent need of repair, and the Committee has learnt with much satisfaction that the owners, the Trustees of the Newbury Consolidated Municipal Charities, have granted the Vicar of St. John's, Newbury, the use of the Chapel, and that he proposes to carry out the works recommended, and any other that may be necessary to fit it again for the services of the Church.

Newport Castle, Monmouth.

The Castle was recently examined on behalf of the Society. It is situated on the south bank of the river Usk, close against Newport Bridge. What remains is the side facing the river. This has in the middle a

square tower or keep, and at each end an octagonal tower, all connected by a curtain wall, which returns for a short distance on the west side. On the east side the curtain wall has gone, and on the town side also the wall is missing, and the site occupied by a roadway and modern buildings.

The Committee addressed a letter to Viscount Tredegar, thinking him to be the owner. His Lordship informed the Society that the Castle was in *three* ownerships, *viz.*, the Great Western Railway, the Corporation of Newport and himself.

The Corporation of Newport was therefore approached, pointing out that the Castle was a valuable example, both historically and artistically, of a Border Castle, that for its preservation nothing more was needful than comparatively small works of repair, and asking whether any joint action in this regard by the owners would be possible.

The Committee has been informed by the Town Clerk that the subject is now under consideration.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton.

This is one of the four remaining round Churches, and was probably erected about the year 1100. The Committee having learnt that it was proposed to restore the building, arranged for a professional member to make a survey. He reported that the work then in progress was the "restoration" of the tower and spire. The south, east and west faces of the tower had been dealt with, the ashlar facing having been renewed in places and the moulded string courses, and the jambs of the windows patched with new portions, which, done in a mechanical way, looked out of place and detracted from the ancient character of the building. A local stone

was being used, dressed to a smooth surface by rubbing, though the old stonework showed the axe marks of the mediæval workmen. The new stone which had been inserted in the string courses, etc., projected awkwardly beyond the old weathered stones which adjoin. Our member examined several of the old stones which had been removed and were lying at the foot of the tower, and he found that, although they were quite sound, they had evidently, in many cases, been removed on account of some slight defect of the surface.

The stonework of the angles and weatherings of the two buttresses on the west face of the tower had been much renewed, and so had that of the moulded jamb and arch of the west doorway. Most of the battlements on the top of the tower had also been renewed, and showed a hard outline owing to the mechanical way in which the moulded coping had been worked.

So far as it was possible to judge from the north side of the tower, which had not been dealt with, the condition of the stone work was sound and did not require the drastic treatment which had been adopted. Individual stones more worn than others should be treated with lime and baryta, to harden them and arrest the action of the weather.

A copy of the Society's report was sent to the Vicar, who replied sympathetically. It is hoped that the Society's action may result in the remaining work being done without the renewal of stonework.

St. John's College, Oxford.

THE GARDEN FRONT.

The stonework of this beautiful building, erected by Archbishop Laud 1631-5, had long been decaying, and in the spring of last year it became evident that some por-

tions were becoming dangerous. The College determined to deal with the matter and sought the advice of the Society as to the best method of procedure.

Several close and careful examinations of the fabric were made, and a detailed report was duly submitted to the College, who arranged forthwith to put the work in hand under the immediate supervision of the Society.

The building is thirty feet high and nearly two hundred feet long, and the decay was found to be very general, so it was clear that only a portion could be dealt with in the time available—some fourteen weeks. A start was made at the south-east corner, and by working steadily from left to right it was found possible to deal with exactly one half of the front by the end of the long vacation.

The surface decay of the stone facing—mostly Headington—was extensive and had penetrated deeply, especially in the gables, parapets, cornices, oriels and the upper parts generally.

In many places the parapets—already leaning—were eaten almost through from front to back; in one oriel, all three supporting corbels had fractured completely across at the wall line. The mullions throughout were much decayed and the angle mullions of the centre oriel had but a few inches of solid stone remaining.

All this decay has been removed, missing portions built up with tiles, bedded in and faced with lias lime mortar, and the cracked corbels drilled *in situ* and held together with long copper bolts. Finally the whole surface has received repeated dressings of baryta.

It is hoped to complete the repair of the front during the ensuing Long Vacation. Meanwhile it may be of interest to state that, so far, not a single new stone has been inserted, nor the whole of an old one removed.

Pembrey Church, Carmarthenshire.

The Vicar accepted an offer to send a professional member to survey this Church, and a report was presented to him.

The Church has a chancel, with a chapel on the north side; a nave, with a north aisle; a south porch; and a tower on the north-west side of the aisle. The interior still possesses great charm, notwithstanding the many alterations and changes which it has undergone.

A scheme has been prepared for restoration at a cost of £3,000; but the Committee's report, sent to the Vicar, stated that the Church could be thoroughly repaired, and new seats and heating apparatus provided, at an estimated cost of £1,800.

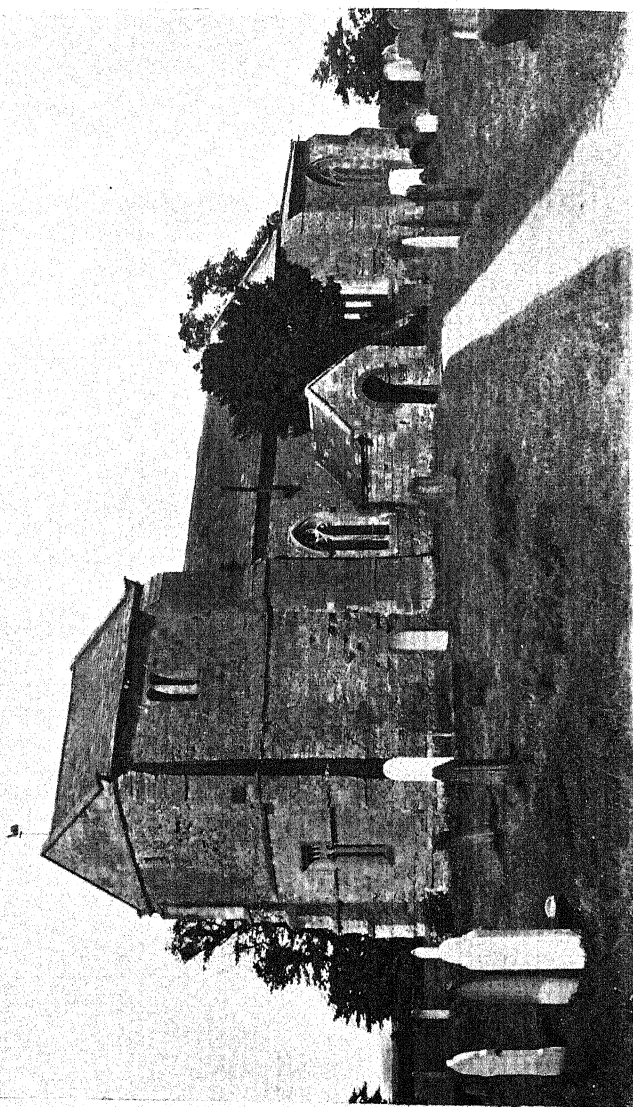
The Vicar has informed the Committee that the report has proved of great assistance, and it is hoped the result will be that the original scheme for restoring the building will be modified.

Puddletown Church, Dorset.

There is grave danger of this beautiful authentic un-restored church being marred by enlargement. Application has been made for a faculty to make additions at the east end of the chancel and the north aisle.

If the proposed extension were necessary for the proper performance of Divine Worship, the Committee, much as it would regret the necessity, would not in this case feel justified in opposition; however, from enquiries it finds that the Church is more than large enough for the needs of the parish.

The present chancel dates from 1576, but the earlier chancel was in all probability longer, and the surmise that this was so has been advanced as one of the reasons for the proposals. Those who argue thus do not stop to



ST. HILDA'S CHURCH, SHERBURN, YORKSHIRE.
AUGUST, 1909.

consider that we do not know what the older chancel was like; and that, even if we did know, we could neither raise from the dead the middle ages, nor again bring to life a work of art.

Also the promoters put forward the belief that stones from the chancel were built into a house in the parish. They propose therefore not only to destroy the chancel built in 1576 but also to pull down a house of about the same date; this, be it marked, in order to recover some stones which have lost their significance as architecture.

For the proposal to lengthen the north aisle no apology whatever seems to have been thought necessary. It certainly involves the pulling down of an ancient wall, and further disturbance of the restful beauty of the Church.

A Vestry meeting has approved of the proposed alterations; but the Committee would urge that this is no ordinary Parish Church but a Church of unique character and of an interest not merely local; and that the decision of such a meeting ought not to be conclusive if opposed to the opinion of those better qualified to judge.

The Committee is doing its utmost to frustrate the scheme, and after writing to the public press has addressed the Bishop of Salisbury.

St. Hilda's Church, Sherburn, Yorkshire.

A view is given of this interesting ancient Church as it existed until a few months since at Sherburn.

The following letter, published in the *Yorkshire Herald* and the *Yorkshire Post*, on October 4, 1909, explains the Society's action.

SIR,—The Committee of this Society will be much indebted to you if you will kindly grant it space in your valuable columns to refer to the works now in progress at St. Hilda's Church, Sherburn, Yorkshire.

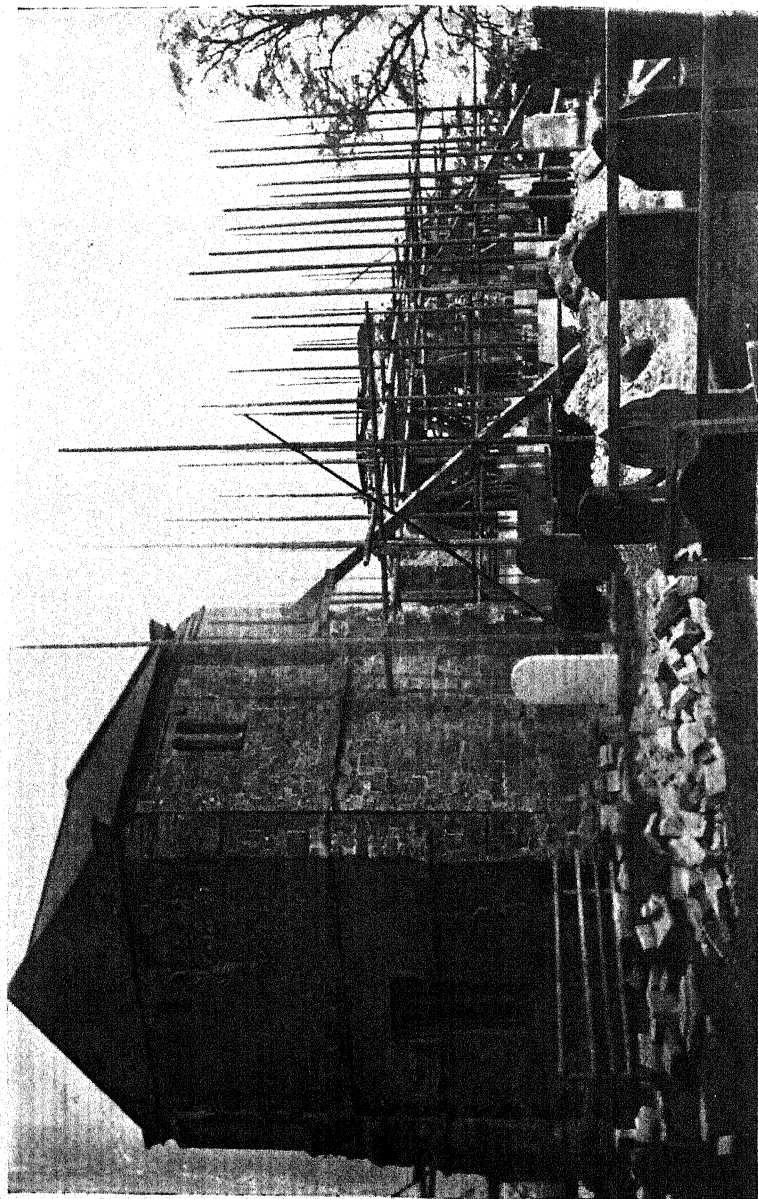
In May of the present year the attention of the Society was called to a paragraph in the public Press to the effect that it was proposed to carry out extensive works at the Church, and it therefore addressed a letter to the Vicar, asking if he would kindly allow the Society to know what was proposed. He did not reply to this communication, and arrangements were therefore made for a professional member to visit the building on behalf of the Society. Our member was courteously received by the Vicar, who expressed a wish to have a copy of the Society's report upon the building, which was in due course forwarded to him. In acknowledging the receipt of the report, the Vicar stated: "Our plans are settled, and therefore please make no further communication with me upon the subject."

It is a matter of regret to my Committee to find that the works now proceeding will result in the almost entire modernisation of an interesting ancient Parish Church.

The building is of Norman origin, plain in character, and has suffered much from neglect. But it has, or at least had, a particular interest from the fact that a large portion of it had not been touched by "restoration." It consisted, at the time of our representative's visit, of the stump of a Norman tower at the west end; a nave, probably Norman; a south porch of late date, and a fourteenth-century chancel, with a half-round Norman chancel arch in three moulded orders with a carved label.

In its report the Society pointed out how the Church could be repaired and properly fitted for Divine worship, but an entirely different treatment is, we understand, being adopted. The north and south walls of the nave, the east and north walls of the chancel, the porch, and the larger portion of the tower are to be taken down bodily. Aisles are to be added on the north and south side of the nave, the chancel is to be lengthened, and the tower heightened.

To anyone who has had experience of restoration on



ST. HILDA'S CHURCH, SHERBURN, YORKSHIRE.

MAY, 1910.

these lines, it is evident that the entire character of the building will be changed under the process, and the charm which it possessed as a genuine work of the mediæval builders will be destroyed, for even the ancient work allowed to remain will be lost in a mass of new work.

It is stated that provision has to be made for additional accommodation, but my Committee has no doubt that this could have been obtained with little loss of interest to the building, and without adopting the works of wholesale destruction now in progress.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THACKERAY TURNER, *Secretary.*

In a note published in the *Yorkshire Herald* on 12 November, 1909, it was stated that, with the exception of the tower and two walls of the chancel, the whole of the ancient structure had already been removed. The extent of the devastations will be grasped from the view. Thus has vanished interesting and valuable historical work, which might easily have been preserved.

Old Grammar School, Shrewsbury.

The attention of the Committee was called to works in progress at the Old Grammar School, Shrewsbury, now used as a Free Library and Museum.

The building comprises two wings, containing the lending library and museum; and a side wing used for the news-room and zoological museum.

It was the back of the main wing which was being "restored" when our member visited the building. Beyond the cutting out of a stone or two it did not appear that to the ground floor much was being done; but the first floor and the second (which contains the old school hall), were being very extensively refaced. The work is of early renaissance character, with strap-work friezes.

and classic strings. These were being almost entirely renewed and the strap-work patterns were going to be recarved. A number of the old stones which were lying below were examined, and not one could be discovered that was soft or structurally unsound, though naturally the moulded nosings, etc., were imperfect. The walls are said to have been unsafe, but if their former state can be judged from the condition of the news-room wing, which had not been touched, there could have been no great difficulty in repairing them without refacing, had the Society's methods been adopted.

The interesting gateway below with classic caps of early character, was left unprotected, and was being badly damaged by falling stones: in fact no attempt seems to have been made to protect any of the old stonework.

The Committee called the attention of the Town Council of Shrewsbury to the facts, and appealed for more conservative treatment. The Town Clerk replied, that he had submitted the letter to the Estates Committee of the Town Council and had been requested to state that what was being done was not undertaken without expert advice; was not commenced a day too soon; and was being carried out in the most careful manner. Further that the Chairman of the Shropshire Archaeological Society had assured his Committee that no act of vandalism was being committed.

Upon receipt of this communication, extracts from our member's report were forwarded to the Town Clerk, who promised to lay them before the Estates Committee. The Committee has heard nothing further from the Town Council; but it hopes, as a result of the action taken, that the untouched wing of the building may be dealt with more sympathetically.

Skenfrith Church, Monmouth.

In the last report (pp. 81-2) it was stated that as soon as the money required was forthcoming the works to repair this building and to fit it for Divine Worship, would be carried out under the personal direction of an Architect in consultation with the Society.

It is the pleasant duty of the Committee to report that all has now been completed, after having been in progress for the last ten months.

Little appears to have been done to the fabric since 1661-81, when the roofs were overhauled, and the south aisle roof ceiled with a plaster vault. About the year 1848 the old Elizabethan oak pews were replaced by deal seats, varnished; and a modern vestry was built on the north side of the chancel.

When the present work was undertaken, the exterior of the building was thickly overgrown with ivy, which had caused serious damage to the masonry; and in the tower large roots of ivy were found growing inside the south wall, loosening the outer facing from the foundation upwards.

The chancel, nave and south aisle retain their fourteenth-century timber roofs of massive oaken construction, with cross and longitudinal moulded ribs, framed into the rafters and wall-plates.

The lead gutters between the nave and the aisle roofs were very narrow and without drips; consequently in places the oak plates and the feet of the rafters were rotten. The roofs, with the exception of those of the north aisle and the chancel, were without tie-beams; and owing to the decay of the wall-plates considerable movement had taken place in the rafters, by which the arcades of the nave and the wall over them had been pushed outwards. The defective wall-plates have been

renewed with seasoned English oak, securely fixed to the existing sound parts; and the roofs of the nave and south aisle tied together in three places with cambered beams bolted to the wall-plates, and at the ends secured by iron straps to the existing beams of the north aisle. The roof timbers have been strengthened and repaired where necessary, and the gutters reconstructed with oak and covered with cast lead laid on deal boarding.

The stone slates have been stripped from the roofs in sections, redressed, and those which were sound refixed on oak battens, with a fillet of mortar at the head of each course; about two-thirds have had to be renewed with similar old slates procured in the neighbourhood.

The walls have been underpinned in places and the cracks repaired by bonding together the solid work. The piers of the nave arcade, which were found to be resting on the ground without sufficient foundation, have been underpinned from a thick bed of cement concrete.

The stone paving of the floors has been relaid on a six-inch bed of cement concrete, with a layer of broken stone underneath it; and, under the seating, English oak boarding, bedded in mastic nailed to a layer of coke breeze concrete, has been substituted for the deal boarding.

The plastering of the walls and roofs has been carefully repaired and colour-washed. Several wall paintings were discovered; but, owing to the friable condition of the plaster and the hardness and number of coats of limewash covering them, it was found possible only to uncover a portion on the east wall of the south aisle and two small fragments on the north wall of the north aisle. The whole surface of the latter wall appears to have been painted; but, unfortunately, it was found impossible to remove the limewash without destroying the

painting, so it was left alone. The wall on each side of the east window in the chancel bears the Commandments, and these have been uncovered successfully. They are written in red letters, probably in the sixteenth century; for the most part they are so faded as to be unreadable. In the chapel on the south of the chancel, on the east wall, fragments of the Lord's Prayer have been uncovered. Traces of a large painting were also found on the wall over the chancel arch, on the nave side, underneath a more modern coat of plaster. Unfortunately, it was not possible to leave any of it exposed, owing to the perished condition of the old plastering. Other traces of paintings were found on the wall surface over the arcades in the nave.

During the repairs to the fabric the jamb and a portion of the arch of a thirteenth-century window were found in position in the south wall of the chancel, close to the chapel archway: the window had evidently been removed when the chapel was rebuilt in the sixteenth century. The stone steps up to the rood-loft were discovered in the south pier of the chancel arch, in the thickness of the wall, commencing about three feet above the floor level.

The font appears at some time to have been situated to the west of the westmost pier of the north arcade, from an old foundation discovered during the relaying of the floors.

The walls of the tower, which are about four feet thick, were found to be badly disintegrated and cracked, from the foundations upwards, owing to early settlement: the archway leading into the nave had been built up for strength, and so had part of the west doorway and the window over it. The large stone buttress against the west face, however, seems to have arrested the

movement ; and, after repairing and strengthening the walls by bonding together the existing sound portions, it was found possible to open up the doorway and window ; but it was not thought advisable to remove the buttress, as the tower must derive considerable support from it.

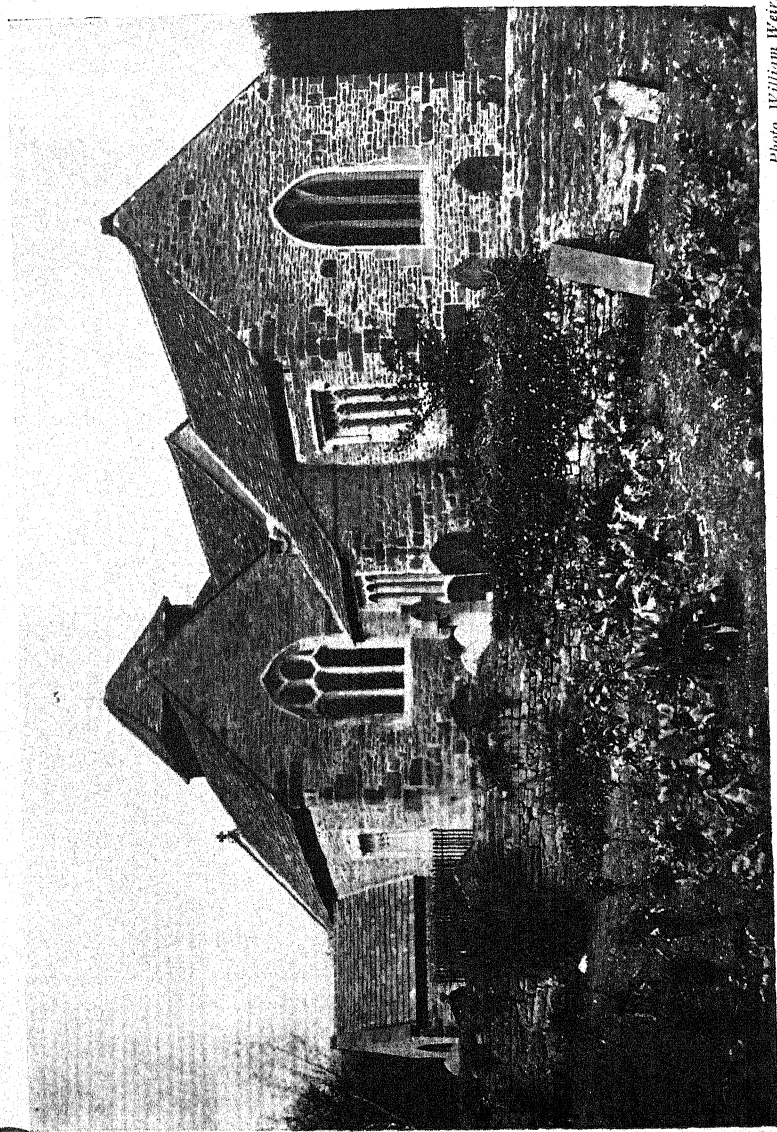
During repair, the east wall over the tower arch was found to be in two thicknesses ; and this suggests that, previously to the building of the tower, it formed the west wall of the nave.

As regards the exterior surface of the masonry, the windows required most careful treatment : in places, the jambs, mullions, and tracery were completely eaten away by the weather. The missing parts have been replaced, where necessary for appearance and strength, by bonding stone tiles into the remaining sound stone so as to carry on the contours, pointing the surfaces with lime mortar. After the completion of the work, the decayed surfaces were treated with lime and baryta solution, to arrest the decay and harden them to withstand the weather.

A surface channel of cement-concrete faced with stone has been formed around the walls, to carry away the rain and surface water from the foundations. Where possible it is below the level of the floor.

The whole of the window glazing, which is of beautiful old crown glass, has been carefully releaded and refixed in position ; the work being done on the spot by experienced men.

The deal seats in the nave and chancel have been replaced with seats of English oak, designed in harmony with the building. Some old Elizabethan panelling belonging to former pews, has been fitted up in the position of an old singing-pew at the east end of the south



Photo, William Weir.

SKENFRITH CHURCH, MONMOUTH;
AFTER REPAIR, 1910.

aisle, and two portions of still earlier seats have been repaired and placed at the west end of the north and south aisles.

The modern vestry on the south side of the chancel has been removed, and a vestry formed in the tower by enclosing the archway with a screen of English oak.

The Churchyard has been enlarged on the south-west side, and a new boundary wall built around it. The existing wall around the Churchyard has been repaired, and heightened in places where the ground level was raised by the earth removed from the interior in the reconstruction of the floors.

A view is given showing the Church after repair.

Snaith Church, Yorks.

This building, a short description of which was given in the report for 1907 (pp. 64-5), has recently been repaired under the guidance of the Society.

The repair of the late twelfth-century tower was the most important undertaken. The tower is carried by a western wall, and by arches towards the nave and aisles. The foundations were poor, as is so frequent in Yorkshire churches. They had been formed by digging trenches and filling them with round cobble stones bedded in wet sand or clay, and went down six feet six inches below ground, where they rested on a stratum of hard "pan" sand. This, however, was barely a foot thick and beneath it was crying sand. Furthermore, the water from the tower roof found its way into the foundations, which in consequence were always moist and yielding, and so they failed to distribute the weight into the surrounding ground.

On the outer corner pier is concentrated a weight of some 300 tons, and the foundations gave way beneath it. As the tower settled, cracks formed in the walls

above. The ringing of the bells, and latterly, the vibration from the adjacent railway, kept these cracks working, and as they worked the débris settled to the bottom, where it acted as a wedge.

The subsidence was greatest in the north-east pier and the tower had heeled northwards. The cracks through the apexes of the arches on both sides extended to the top of the tower, depriving this corner of lateral bond.

This pier demanded the first attention. The arches on both sides were first supported by pitchpine centering, and as the surrounding ground was all of made-earth the centerings themselves were built upon a sort of raft of beams. The pier was mapped out into seven divisions, and the old foundation extracted from one division at a time. As the cobble stones were without mortar, none could be left overhead, and the excavation had to extend the whole depth; and as the sides then could not be left vertical, the excavation encroached upwards into the adjoining divisions. By beginning at an external angle the danger was minimised. The excavation was filled with cement-concrete extending a yard outwards from the pier, and the concrete wedged up to the stone above; and this process was carried on in the other divisions till the whole was complete.

The pier itself was next taken in hand. It consisted of an ashlar casing with a core of cobble stones laid in mortar, the bond being imperfect. The unequal yielding of the old foundation had thrown the weight off the core on to the casing, and this had buckled outwards, leaving the core behind. Numerous cracks showed that the ashlar was unequal to the strain imposed upon it, and the repair had to be undertaken with the greatest care. A few stones were withdrawn at a time, and the internal core renewed with cement concrete, the outer stones

being replaced as the concrete rose; where the old stones were too cracked they were renewed with old ashlar found in the foundations and elsewhere.

The next work undertaken was that to the northern half of the west wall, which had suffered from the northward heeling of the tower. The foundations were even more tender, but the greater bearing area enabled them to be dealt with more safely, and a month of fine weather allowed the external trenches to be kept dry, temporary roofing being arranged over them as a precautionary measure.

The centering from the north arch was then transferred to the corresponding arch on the south side, and the repair of the south-east pier and south-west angle staircase begun. The old work here being in better condition the foundations were not interfered with, and in several places above, grouting took the place of complete renewal.

As each pier was finished, the cracks were followed upwards. Features of interest at this level are the gallery leading from the south-west staircase to the "embouchure" of the window over the west door; and a small tunnel which was discovered in the south wall, between the stairs and the south window. In the ringing chamber above, a large oak tie-beam which obstructed the door from the staircase was jacked up into a position clear of the headroom. Considerable difficulty was found in following the cracks up into the belfry above, the threefold floor being nearly a yard thick. The piers between the belfry windows were for the most part in good condition, but the majority of the window arches were cracked and the wall above had to be renewed with lime concrete.

The exterior of the tower was pointed from a cradle.

The clock face was lowered down, painted, and refixed. The parapet copings were relaid, the lead shoots on the west side were prolonged so as to carry the rainwater clear of the tower, and the ground below paved with York stone flagging laid on concrete falling towards gullies on either side. The treads of the staircase, which were worn very hollow, were chiselled down and refaced with granite concrete.

The west portion of the south aisle had foundations similar to those of the tower, and had suffered in the same way, and leant outwards seriously. The wall was underpinned in three places with concrete "legs," to avoid the expense of continuous underpinning. The west wall of the north aisle was in such bad condition that it had to be underpinned and completely renewed inside with concrete. It was found necessary also to underpin most of the buttresses round the church, while the core of the south-east buttress of the south transept was rebuilt in concrete. The head of the window to this transept was badly cracked, and a strong tile lintel, backed up with concrete, was inserted from the inside. A window jamb, and the adjoining portion of the south wall of the sanctuary, which had buckled outwards, were straightened and the core renewed, only a small piece being dealt with at one time.

The nave roof, formerly a low-pitched fifteenth-century lead roof, was converted into a high-pitched slate roof in the last "restoration," and the gable over the chancel arch raised in consequence; this latter had spread, cracking the walls of the rood stairs. The means taken to prevent this—the building up of the stairs—was so badly carried out, masses of stone being merely thrown into the staircase with hardly a trace of mortar, that it only furthered the mischief. All this loose

material was now cleared out, the cracks repaired with concrete, the minor ones grouted up. In the course of these operations it was discovered that the staircase had been planted on to a Norman wall, still existing behind it and retaining portions of its fresco decoration, consisting for the most part of red "jointing" one foot three inches long by six and a half inches wide, with a red rosette in the middle; portions of a figure could also be seen.

A modern cross standing on the gable above the chancel arch was so shattered, from the rusting of its iron dowel, that it was taken down and replaced by the old porch cross, which had been erected in the churchyard since the porch was destroyed at the last "restoration."

The external walls of the Church are of limestone, except those of the tower, where a friable sandstone in light and dark chequers had been used by the twelfth-century builders. The sandstone, however, had withstood the weather better than the limestone, large portions of which had perished on the face. The walls were treated with baryta and lime to arrest further decay; where the damage was greatest the stones were made out with tiles laid in courses. Many of the window mullions had to be repaired in a similar way, and it is noticeable that the greater number of these were in the comparatively recent work of "restored" windows.

The cast-iron rain-water pipes were in very bad condition—hardly a length but was cracked. They were replaced by pipes of 8-lbs. cast sheet lead, with the exception of the pipes discharging from the nave onto the side aisle roofs, where lead shoots were employed instead.

Minor works carried out were the relaying of parts of the tile floors in the chancel and the Stanton Chapel; the cleaning of the creosote from the fine fifteenth-century oak doors on the west of the tower; repairs to the

heating apparatus, including the covering of the external pipes with asbestos; the provision of new shutters to the belfry windows and of a plain sandbox to take the place of the insanitary neo-Gothic casing beneath the clock weights; and repairs to the window glazing.

Somersby Church, Lincolnshire.

It is proposed to repair this building in commemoration of the centenary of Lord Tennyson. At the request of those interested in the movement the Church was surveyed and a report, and an approximate estimate of the cost of carrying out the necessary repairs, was drawn up.

The building consists of a chancel, nave, south porch, and western tower, and although in times past it has suffered severely both from "restoration" and from neglect, yet it is still worthy of preservation, and the Committee sincerely hopes that the sum necessary will be forthcoming.

Wadsworth Church, Yorkshire.

The Committee was consulted by the Vicar as to the best method of protecting the stonework from further decay; so the Church was visited. It has a chancel, with a chapel on the south; nave, with north and south aisles; and a western tower, and is altogether very interesting. The chancel, nave and aisles appear to have been built early in the thirteenth century; the south chapel added about the end of the fourteenth, and the western tower late in the fifteenth.

The fabric generally is sound, with the exception of the north and south walls of the chancel, which are cracked in their height under the eastmost jamb of the

windows in the clerestory and need reparation in accordance with the Society's usual method.

The dressed stone of the window jambs, mullions and tracery is decaying, and so is that of the wall arcade in the south aisle. This decay, which is not extensive, needs to be arrested by dressing the stone with lime and baryta water, so as to harden the surface and protect it from the atmosphere and the weather.

The Vicar has thanked the Committee for the report, but says he fears there is no immediate prospect of the necessary works, which are estimated to cost £50, being taken in hand. He adds, however, that whenever the opportunity arises he will lay the report before all concerned.

Watford Church, Rugby.

At the request of the Vicar this exceptionally interesting building was visited and reported upon.

It has a large chancel, with a chapel on the north side; nave, with north and south aisles and porches; and a western tower; and, with the exception of the north porch and the tower, appears to have been built in the fourteenth century. The massive tower is about a hundred years later, and the north porch was probably erected in the eighteenth century.

The walls are of rich coloured local sandstone, but this is marred by surface decay. The masonry is structurally sound with the following exceptions: the north wall of the chancel, the chancel arch and its abutment on the north, and the angle buttresses of the north aisle.

The roofs are covered with cast lead which, with the exception of that of the chancel and the tower, is in good condition.

The north arcade of the chancel is unsound. It is pierced by an archway leading into the Chapel, east of which is another archway springing from a lower level, which appears to have been over a tomb, now missing. The pier between the two arches is very narrow, and has yielded considerably to the thrust of the lower arch. The archways are filled in, on the Chapel side, with a four-and-a-half inch brick wall.

The north abutment of the chancel arch also has yielded to the thrust of it, and is much out of the upright. Further, there is a bad crack in the arch itself near the apex, where the two orders are displaced in a dangerous degree. There appears originally to have been an arch across the aisle at the back of the abutment, enclosing the Chapel, of which, on the north side of the abutment, the "respond" still exists. The Chapel is now enclosed with a brick wall, fourteen inches thick in the lower portion and nine inches above; but it does not seem to have stayed the movement.

The north wall of the chancel is cracked vertically near the east end, and leans outwards similarly to the abutment of the chancel arch.

In the south wall there are three large three-light windows apparently inserted in the fifteenth century; they are in good repair. The outside facing of the wall has suffered from the rainwater off the roof, owing to the defective downpipes. Ivy is growing on it, and if not removed will in time cause serious damage. The joints of the external arch over the east window are open.

The stone mullion of the fine window in the east wall of the chancel is split, and the internal arch over the window displaced. The exterior masonry over the fourteenth-century window in the north and south aisles

shews surface decay. The west window in the north aisle is without mullions or tracery, and the south jamb is rebuilt with rough masonry. The arch of the north porch is cracked at the apex. The angle buttresses at the east and west ends of the north aisle are badly displaced, owing to undermining of the foundations, from defective drainage. The west buttress has settled away from the angle.

Recently, a drain for the removal of rainwater has been constructed on the south side of the building, but the north side still needs attention. The aisle and Chapel are without parapets, and the rain-water is collected by a small half-round eaves gutter, which overflows during heavy storms.

The pointing on the exterior of the tower requires renewal. The west wall of the first stage is faced with ashlar, around the large window. Elsewhere the facing is of rubble stonework in thin courses. The battlements on the top of the tower are loose, and require refixing. The two-light openings of the belfry stage, which are very beautiful, are sound. The cast lead of the flat roof of the tower is in bad condition.

The belfry holds a peal of six bells, of which the treble, 2nd and 3rd are dated 1712, the 4th and 5th, 1695, and the tenor 1820. The bell-frame is of oak, beyond repair, and the beams supporting it are unsafe.

Generally the interior of the building is in fair repair. The walls are finished with modern plaster of a rough surface, without limewash, projecting beyond the masonry of the window and other openings.

The masonry of the nave arcades, chancel and tower, is coated with a wash of Roman cement, which gives a dull appearance to the interior, and this unfortunately is accentuated by the roughly executed plaster on the walls.

For the most part the windows are glazed with beautiful old crown glass, the only exception being the double lancet window on the west of the south porch, which has recently been glazed with "Cathedral" glass. The floors are paved with black and white tiles.

The north wall of the Chapel contains three recessed tombs, in good condition.

It will be seen from the above description that the building requires careful repair, and the Committee hopes the recommendations contained in its report will be carried into effect.

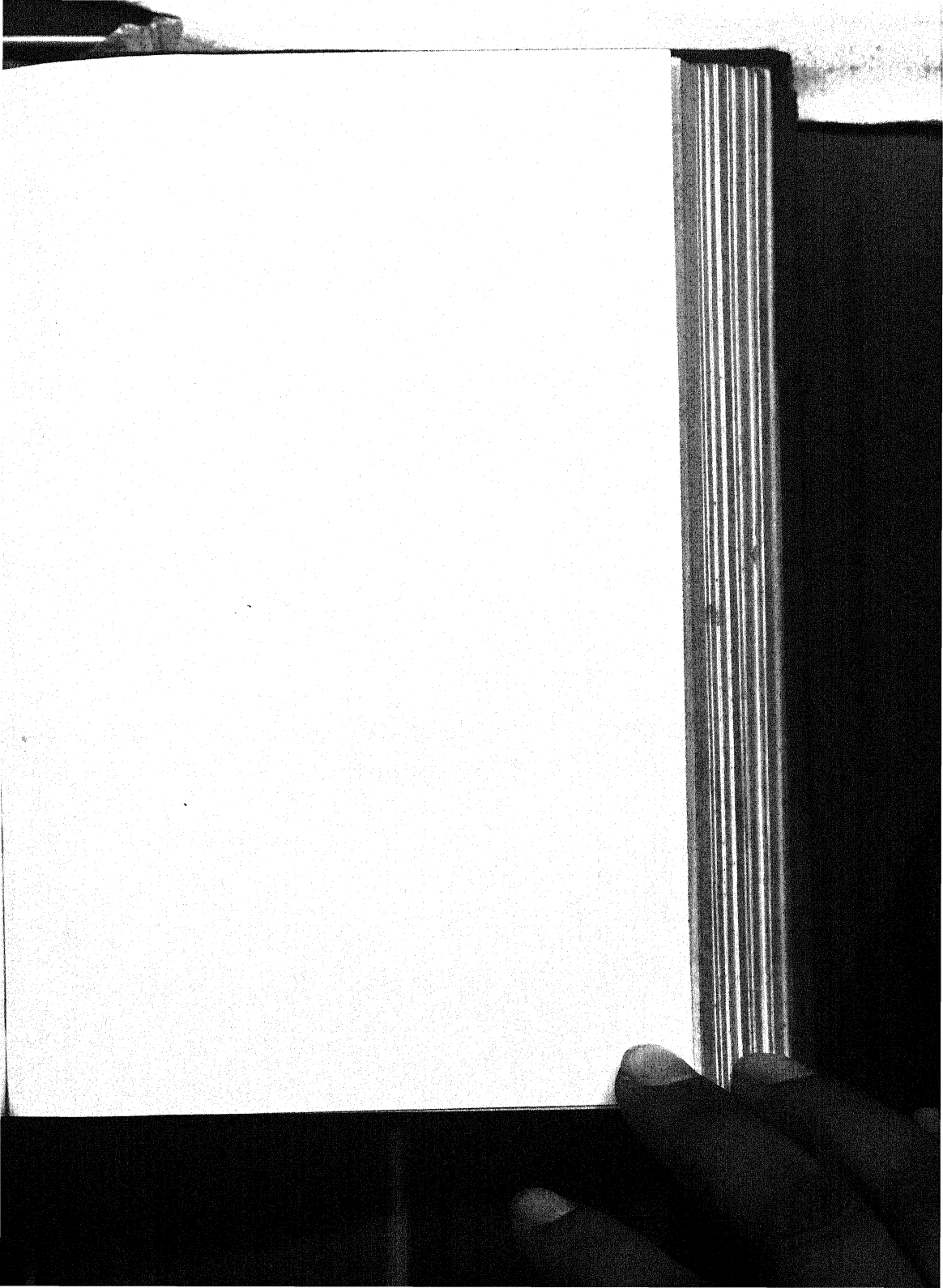
Welwyn Church, Herts.

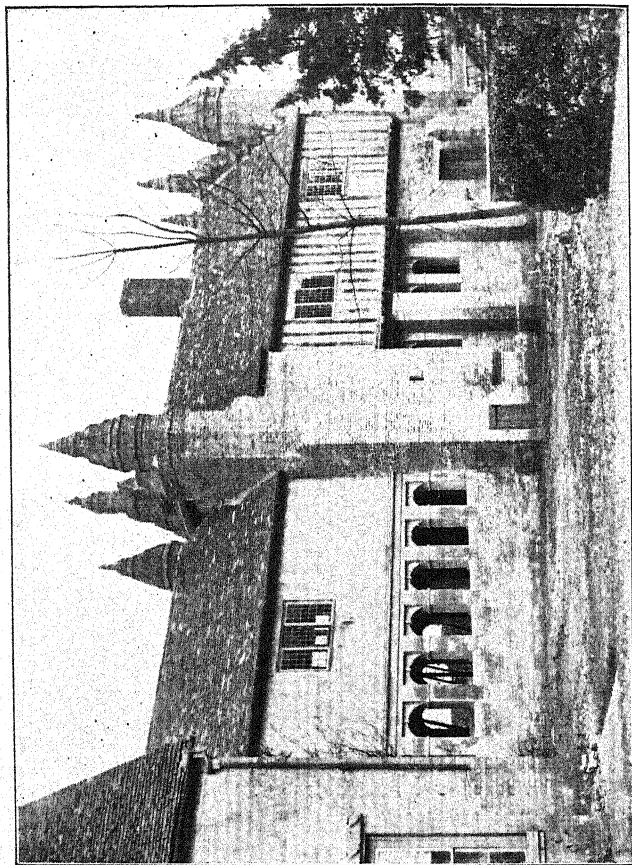
An enlargement of this Church is contemplated, and a scheme has been prepared which, if carried out, will bring about the destruction of the fifteenth-century roof and the western wall of the nave.

It is proposed to do away with the ancient roof,—with the possible exception of the tie-beams—and to substitute for it a modern high-pitched roof of thirteenth-century type; this merely that the nave roof may correspond with the chancel roof of 1870. At the same time, the present circular clerestory openings are to be enlarged, and the late brick north aisle is to be remodelled with its roof, so as to counteract to some extent the effect of the thrust of the proposed new nave roof, and also so as to conform to the modern work of 1870.

An extension of the nave and north aisle westwards is contemplated, apparently because the gallery in the north aisle, which extends across the west end of the nave is to be removed.

The Committee has sent a letter to the Rector pleading that the matter may be reconsidered. It has urged that, although the gallery is of late date, the Society





WEST STOW HALL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS,
SUFFOLK; AFTER REPAIR.

*By kind permission of
the Earl Cadogan, K.G.*

would deprecate its removal if that would entail the loss of the west end of the nave, and has suggested that, before any destructive works are undertaken, the gallery should first be closed, to ascertain whether an average congregation would be incommoded, and that if no inconvenience were apparent it might be kept closed except on special occasions when large congregations were expected; or alternatively, that it might be removed, without any extension of the building, or destruction of valuable ancient work.

West Stow Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

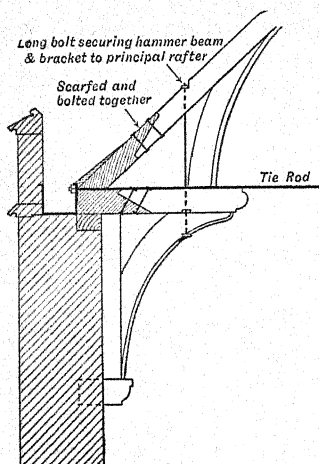
By the kind permission of the Rt. Hon. The Earl Cadogan, K.G., the Committee is able to give two views of this interesting building which was repaired a short time since in accordance with the Society's principles.

The Committee is indebted to *The Builder* for the use of the block showing the side of the Hall.

Church of St. Mary, Whaplode, Lincolnshire.

In the report for 1909 (p. 94) it was stated that there was a likelihood that this beautiful Church would be repaired under the Society's guidance; and the Committee is now able to state that the works thought by it to be necessary, have for the last six months been in progress by local workmen under the direction of an Architect in consultation with the Society.

What has been done is as follows. The fifteenth-century roof over the nave has been repaired and strengthened, without taking it down. Where rotted, by wet soaking through the defective guttering, the wall plates have been renewed and the old timbers pieced-up with English oak, carefully spliced-in and bolted to the sound work. A typical case is shewn in the sketch on the next page.



There are no tie-beams, and the thrust of the roof had disturbed and cracked the clerestory walls ; so the feet of each pair of principal rafters have been tied together with a wrought iron tie-rod, and the walls repaired in the Society's usual way.

Prior to the fifteenth century there was a Norman roof, and when the fifteenth-century carpenters put up that which now exists, the high Norman gables at the

east and west of the nave were not cut down to the lower pitch, but left as they were. This has given an opportunity of protecting the old work effectually by constructing over the old roof a new one of the same pitch as that of the Normans. For covering this, the old lead sheets recast have been used as far as they would go, and the shortage made up with sheets cast of new virgin lead.

The roof of the north aisle appears to have been a good deal renewed in the eighteenth century. The timber work has been repaired, and the lead covering made sound without recasting. The walls had been pushed outwards by the roof: they were found to have poor foundations, and to consist of an inner and an outer facing filled in with loose rubble. A new foundation of concrete has been put in, the walls underpinned from it, and the loose core taken out and good concrete

substituted. The walls of the south aisle have been dealt with similarly; and the roof timbers, which are of deal, are being repaired preparatory to recasting and relaying the lead covering. In the south porch the roof timbering has been made sound and the stone slates refixed on new oak battens.

In the north transept, the walls have been repaired and strengthened, and the floor lowered to the level of that of the nave. The modern deal roof, which was indifferently constructed, is being replaced by a new one of English oak covered with the old lead recast.

Around the building the ground has been sloped away back from below the floor level, and the old drains have been repaired and connected to gullies at the feet of the rainwater pipes.

With the repair of the tower roof the work as regards the exterior of the Church will be finished. The works remaining to be done will be the repair of the leaded glazing of the windows; the limewhiting of the plastering of the chancel and aisles walls; the installation of a Gurney stove; the enclosing of a space to form a vestry at the west end of the north aisle; and, if possible, the resuscitation of the old pulpit, which some years ago was removed and utilised in fitting up a vestry in the north aisle.

Towards the cost of the works the sum of £10 has been voted from the Society's Building Fund.

Church of St. John-the-Baptist, Whitchurch, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

This Church was visited and reported upon to the authorities. It consists of a chancel, probably fifteenth-century; nave, thirteenth-century with fourteenth-century clerestory and fifteenth-century roof; north and

south aisles, fourteenth-century with fifteenth-century windows; south porch, seventeenth-century, and western tower, thirteenth-century, with a fifteenth-century belfry containing a peal of six bells.

The chancel roof appears to have been poorly reconstructed with oak from an earlier roof; it is of very flat pitch and is covered with cast lead, in bad repair. The north wall of the north aisle leans outwards, and the ashlar facing of the south wall of the south aisle has decayed. Otherwise the walls are sound. The oak bell-frame is in contact with the belfry walls.

The condition of the building and the many repairs needed to make it structurally sound and fit for Divine Worship were fully described in the report. The Committee is glad to be able to state that there is every probability of the Society's advice being followed.

St. Mary Magdalen Church, Wiggenshall, Norfolk.

A description of this interesting Church was given in the last report (pp. 95-8).

The repair of the roof of the south aisle has been undertaken during the past year, the work being done by local workmen under the direction of an Architect in consultation with the Society, in accordance with its usual method.

The cast lead, which was much worn and patched, was removed in sections and recast without being taken away from the site. The ends of the principal rafters, and the wall-plates were completely rotted by wet, which for years had been coming through the defective lead-work. A new wall-plate of English oak had to be inserted, and the ends of all the main timbers renewed with English oak, carefully spliced and bolted to the sound work. The feet of the rafters, where rotted, were renewed

similarly and refixed. Most of the old oak boarding was completely decayed and has had to be renewed with English oak in various widths, and over it has been fixed deal boarding upon which was laid the lead, with hollow rolls at the junctions of the sheets.

The oak cornice to the south wall has been repaired and securely refixed to the principals with iron straps. At the completion of the work the plaster on the walls was repaired and brushed down.

St. Swithin's Church, Worcester.

This Church, which consists of an aisleless nave, with a western tower, was built by White—a pupil of Sir Christopher Wren—on the site of an earlier building, at the junction of St. Swithin's Street with Church Street.

A report upon its condition and the works necessary to put it into repair and render it more fit for Divine Worship was sent to the Rector. Unhappily, however, it is proposed to restore the building at an estimated cost of £3,000; and as the Society's estimate for doing all that is needed is £750, it is to be feared that this interesting example of an eighteenth-century Church, both as regards structure and fittings, is in danger of being deprived of its present simple dignity.

Worksop Priory Church and Gateway, Notts.

It is proposed to enlarge Worksop Priory Church and to restore the Priory Gateway.

The Committee addressed to the Vicar a letter appealing for information as to the proposed work to the Gateway, and he very kindly forwarded it to the Architect and asked him to write to the Society. The Architect's letter stated that until his plan and specification had been formally adopted he would not be able to send the Society a copy.

A short time after the receipt of this, the Committee learnt from the public press that the same Architect was to superintend some contemplated works at Work-sop Priory Church, and it therefore approached him. He declined however to give any information as to his intentions with regard to the building as the matter was still in Committee; and stated that he had not even pledged himself to send his plan and specification for the proposed work to the Gateway. In further correspondence he explained that he objected, from a point of view of professional etiquette, to submit plans or specifications of any works without the full permission and desires of the clients.

It is not often that Architects refuse to allow the Society to see their proposals for dealing with ancient buildings, for it is always understood that any information from them is given as a matter of courtesy, and that suggestions by the Society do not bind them in any way.

The Committee does not see how any question of professional etiquette arises; and its experience is that, almost invariably, in cases where Architects have declined to allow the Society to know what they are proposing, the works have proved to be contrary to its principles and such as it could not support.

St. Helen's Church, Stonegate, York.

The attention of the Committee was called to reports in the public press that it was proposed to amalgamate the parish of St. Helen's, Stonegate, with that of St. Martin's, Stoney Street, York, and that if this were done it would probably result in the practical closing of St. Helen's Church and in its falling into ruin.

The Committee addressed a letter to the Archbishop of York pointing out that St. Helen's Church is a building of far too great value to be allowed to become a ruin or to be pulled down, and begging that it might be permitted to know how it was proposed to overcome this difficulty. A courteous reply was received from His Grace informing the Society that there is no kind of intention to pull down the Church and that if any scheme for union is carried out it will provide for the continuance of Divine Worship in the building.

Permission was kindly given for this to be made public, and it is satisfactory to know that this valuable building is not threatened with destruction.

LIST OF BUILDINGS WHICH HAVE COME BEFORE THE SOCIETY DURING THE YEAR:

Ashworth, Lancs., St. James's Church.	Breinton, Herefordshire, Altar Table, etc.
Ayr, N.B., Auld Brig of	Bressingham Church, Norfolk.
Bag Enderby Church, Lincs.	Buckingham, Royal Latin School
Banbury, Oxon., Globe Room, Reindeer Inn.	Bunney Church, Nottingham.
Bardsey-cum-Rigton Church, Yorks.	Burford, Oxon., The Priory.
Barfreston Church, Kent.	Burton Coggles Church, Lincs.
Barton-upon-Humber, Lincs., St. Mary's Church.	Canford Church, Dorset.
Basingwerk Abbey, Flints.	Carnarvon, St. Mary's Church.
Bath, Somerset, Houses, Bath Street.	Cartmell Fell Church, Lancs.
Beverley Minster, Yorks.	Cerrig-y-Drudion Church, Denbighs.
Birchington Church, Kent.	Chalton Church, Hants.
Birmingham, Warwickshire, Tower of Cathedral Church of St. Philip.	Cherington Church, Warwickshire.
Birmingham, Old Golden Lion Inn, Deritend.	Chesham Bois Church, Bucks.
Bledlow Church, Bucks.	Chester Cathedral.
Blô Norton Hall, Norfolk.	Chester, St. Peter's Church.
Bolingbroke Castle, Lincs.	Chester, Dee Mill.
Boston, Lincs., Old Guild Hall.	Christchurch Priory Church, Hants.
Branscombe Church, Devonshire.	Christchurch Hants, Place Mill.
	Churchover, Church Tower, Warwickshire.
	Cirencester Church, Gloucestershire.

Clifton, Campville Church, Staffs.	Farnham, Surrey, House at
Colne Church, Lancs.	Fincham Church, Norfolk.
Constantinople, Walls of	Finedon Church Tower and Bells,
Conway Castle, Carnarvonshire.	Northants.
Courteenhall Church, Northants.	Fordington St. George Church,
Coventry, Warwickshire, Old	Dorchester, Dorset.
Palace Yard, Earl Street.	Glasgow Cathedral.
Cowdray House, Midhurst, Sussex,	Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.
Ruins of	Grantham, Lincs., King Edward
Cromhall Church, Gloucester-	VI. School.
shire.	Great Malvern Priory Church,
Croydon, Surrey, Old Palace.	Worcestershire.
Croydon, Surrey, Whitgift	Great Mongeham Church Tower,
Hospital.	Kent.
Croyland Abbey, Lincs.	Great Stukeley Church, Hunts.
Croyland, Lincs., Bridge.	Groby, Leicester, Old Hall.
Croyland, Lincs., Windmill.	Guildford, Surrey, Castle Gate-
Cyprus, Antiquities of	way House.
Dartford Church, Kent.	Halford, Shipston-on-Stour,
Digby Church, Lincs.	Warwickshire, Manor House.
Downton-on-the-Rock Church,	Hampton Court Palace, Middlesex.
Salop.	Hanborough Church, Oxon.
Droitwich Church, Worcester-	Harnhill Church, Gloucestershire.
shire.	Heacham Church, Norfolk.
East Grinstead, Sussex, Sack-	Hendon Church, Middlesex.
ville College.	Hexham Abbey, Northumberland.
East Harling Church Spire,	High Wycombe, Bucks., Hospital
Norfolk.	of St. John-the-Baptist.
Elmswell Church, Suffolk.	Hill Church, Gloucestershire.
Enborne Church, Berks.	Holme-on-Spalding Moor Church,
Esher, Surrey, St. George's Ch.	Yorks.
Esher, Surrey, Water Gate, The	Holton, nr. Oxford, Roman
Park.	Remains.
Exeter Cathedral, Devonshire.	Holywell, Flints., St Winifred's
Faceby Church, Yorks.	Chapel.

Honeychurch Church, Devon-
 shire.
 Honington Church, Suffolk.
 Hope Bagot Church, Shropshire.
 Hurstmonceux Castle, Sussex.
 Hurstmonceux Church, Sussex.
 Ickleton Church, Cambs.
 Ilmington Church, Shipston-on-
 Stour.
 Indian Monuments.
 Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, Bridge
 Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, The
 Prior's House.
 King's Norton, Worcestershire,
 Old Grammar School.
 Kingston Bridge, Surrey.
 Kirk Sandal Church, Yorks.
 Kniveton Church, Derbyshire.
 Laleham Church, Middlesex.
 Leigh, Lancs., St. Mary's Church.
 Leonard Stanley Church,
 Gloucestershire.
 Leonard Stanley, Gloucester-
 shire, Farm Buildings.
 Letchworth Hall, Garden City,
 Herts.
 Little Fransham Church, Norfolk.
 Little Malvern Church, Worces-
 tershire.
 Little Wittenham Church, Berks.,
 Monuments.
 Llanrwst, Old Bridge, Carnarvon,
 and Denbighs.
 London, Austin Friars, E.C.,
 The Dutch Church.
 London, Chelsea, Old Church.
 London, The Guildhall, E.C.
 London, Hackney, Old Church
 Tower, Mare Street.
 London, Kilburn, The Grange.
 London, Piccadilly, W., St.
 James's Church.
 London, Roman Wall of
 London, Shoreditch, Sir Robert
 Jeffery's Almshouses.
 London, West Smithfield, Ancient
 Gateway.
 Long Compton, Warwickshire,
 Church Gate.
 Lyddington Hall, Rutland.
 Machynlleth, Montgomeryshire,
 Owen Glyndwr's, Parliament
 House.
 Maidstone, Kent, Old Palace.
 Malinslee, Salop, Ruins of Chapel.
 Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.
 Manchester, Humphrey Chet-
 ham's Hospital.
 Market Harborough Church,
 Leicestershire, Sun Dial.
 Marlow, Bucks., House.
 Meare, Glastonbury, Somerset,
 Fish House.
 Meavy, Cornwall, Packhorse
 Bridge.
 Merstham Church, Surrey.
 Mold Church, Flints.
 Monkwearmouth Ch., Durham.
 Muchelney, Somerset, Old
 Priest's House.

Newbury, Berks., Old Cottage,
 Wash Common.
 Newbury, Berks., The Litten
 Chapel.
 Newent Church, Gloucestershire.
 Newport Castle, Mon.
 Newport Church, Salop.
 Northampton, Church of the
 Holy Sepulchre.
 Northumberland, Roman Wall.
 Nottingham, St. Mary's Church.
 Nunney Castle, Somerset.
 Nutfield Ch. Tower, Surrey.
 Old Malton Church, Yorks.
 Old Romney Church, Kent.
 Oxford, Bishop King's House.
 Oxford, Holywell Church Tower.
 Oxford, St. John's College.
 Parracombe, Old Church, Devon-
 shire.
 Patricio Church, Breconshire.
 Pembrey Church, Carmarthen-
 shire.
 Pevensey Castle, Sussex.
 Pickering Church Tower,
 Yorks.
 Puddletown Church, Dorset.
 Queenborough Church, Kent.
 Rainham Church Tower, Essex.
 Ranworth Church, Norfolk.
 Ravensthorpe Church, Northants.
 Robeston West Church, Pem-
 brokeshire.
 Rushbrooke Hall, Bury St.
 Edmunds, Suffolk.
 St. Denys' Church Tower, St.
 Austell, Cornwall.
 St. Genny's Church Tower,
 Cornwall.
 St. Ives Church, Cornwall.
 St. Mary Cray Church, Kent.
 Sall Church, Norfolk.
 Seal, Sevenoaks, Kent, Stonepitt
 Grange.
 Shalfleet Church, Isle of Wight.
 Sherburn, Yorks., St. Hilda's
 Church.
 Shrewsbury, Salop, Old Grammar
 School.
 Skenfrith Church, Mon.
 Snaith Church, Yorks.
 Somersby Church, Lincs.
 Stamford, Lincs., St. Mary's
 Church Tower.
 Staveley, Derbyshire, St. John's
 Church Tower.
 Stratford-on-Avon Church, War-
 wickshire.
 Tamworth Church, Warwick-
 shire.
 Tarrant Crawford Church,
 Dorset.
 Thompson Church, Norfolk.
 Tibshelf Church, Derby.
 Tilbrook Church, Hunts., Screen
 from
 Tilford East Bridge, Surrey.
 Tintern Abbey, Mon.
 Tipton St. John, Devon, Barn.
 Tredunnoch Church, Mon.

Udimore, Sussex, Court Lodge.	Wiggenhall, Norfolk, Church of St. Mary Magdalen.
Wadworth Church, Yorks.	Willersey, Broadway, Gloucestershire, Buildings at
Wakefield, Yorks., Chapel on Bridge.	Wimbledon Park, Surrey, Old Rectory House.
Walesby Church, Lincs.	Winchelsea Church, Sussex.
Walpole St. Peter's Church, Norfolk.	Winchester Cathedral, Hants.
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, Old Manor House.	Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
Watford Church, Rugby.	Worksop Priory Church, Notts.
Welwyn Church, Herts.	Worksop Priory Gateway, Notts.
West Drayton, Middlesex, St. Martin's Church Tower.	Wrenbury Church, Cheshire.
Westhorpe Church, Suffolk.	Yarpole, Herefordshire, Bell Tower.
West Walton Church, Norfolk.	York, Minster.
Whalley Church, Lancs.	York, St. Helen's Church.
Whaplode Church, Lincs.	York, Porch, St. Margaret's Church, Walmgate.
Whitchurch Church, Aylesbury, Bucks.	Yspytty-Cynfyn Church, Cardiganshire.
Wickham, Hants, Cottage.	

REPORT OF GENERAL MEETING.

THE General Meeting of the Society was held on Friday, June 17th, 1910, in the Rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, W., by the kind permission of that Society.

The Chair was taken by the Right Hon. Lord Avebury, D.C.L., F.R.S., LL.D.

The Chairman, in proposing that the Report be taken as read and adopted, pointed out the large amount of valuable voluntary work done by professional members of the Society in surveying and reporting upon buildings, and appealed for new members not only that the funds of the Society might be increased, but also its influence.

Mr. Somers Clarke, F.S.A., seconded the motion, and in doing so stated that he had recently returned from Egypt where the Society's influence was undoubtedly felt.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Four photographs of the West Front of Exeter Cathedral were then shown on the screen. These depicted the original canopies over the sculptured figures and the new canopies by which these have been replaced, and were briefly explained by the Secretary.

His Highness Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, M.V.O., F.S.A., then read the following paper :

SOME NORFOLK MANOR HOUSES.

When the Committee of our Society did me the honour of asking me to read a paper to-day, I could not help

feeling that others, much more learned and eloquent than myself, had often discoursed on the object which all the members of the Society have at heart, *viz.*, how *not* to restore old buildings, and I realised that anything I might have to bring forward on the subject (and I must own I have a great deal to say), could be but a *resumé* of all that has been laid down from the time of Ruskin onwards. I therefore stipulated that I might be allowed to select my own subject: hence this very slight essay on Norfolk domestic architecture. I have taken as my title "Some Norfolk Manor Houses." This I have done so as not to be tied by any particular style or period. A few of the houses I hope to show you are almost too stately to come under this category, others, perhaps, too humble. Nevertheless I think that—when we have reached the end of this short tour of inspection of Norfolk houses—you will agree with me that, not only have they a very distinct style and character of their own, but a style which is rarely to be met with elsewhere. That is, of course, excepting in Suffolk. Norfolk and Suffolk together form the province of East Anglia, and what is applicable to the one, practically holds good of the other, except in so far as the southern portion of Suffolk shares with the north part of Essex, a very charming style in pargetting and timber work. Now one word as to restoration. I say it with sorrow that, with rare exceptions, the old mansions of Norfolk have suffered terribly and irremediably at the hand of the restorer. Happily some of the smaller manor houses, such as that of Blo' Norton, have escaped; but very few of the "great," or even large houses have eluded the baneful spell. We are all aware of the beauty—often quite mediæval—of the old stone houses of Dorset and Somerset; we have been bewitched as much

by the charm of the Cotswold manor house as by the picturesqueness of the half-timber mansions, which stretch up the west side of England from Worcester to Lancashire; and we all appreciate the pure—almost classic—beauty of the stone houses of Northants; but these old Norfolk Halls built of red brick with moulded chimneys and crow stepped gables of the same material, with their pedimented windows and doors are, I fancy, less well known. Neither do I think, except to those dwelling in or among them, has their remarkable “family likeness” been observed. The resemblance in their architectural details is so strong that it might almost be said to constitute “the Norfolk Style.” Before going further into this question I should like to touch on that of material. Stone, except for a brown sand-stone, locally called car-stone, the colour of ginger-bread and quarried in the neighbourhood of Lynn, is non-existent. This material, therefore, being in the middle ages a negligible quantity and timber only being freely obtainable in the heavy land districts—where the woodlands were—one is at a loss to understand why flint, which has been used with such grand effects in nearly all of the 700 parish churches in the county, is not to be met with more frequently in domestic buildings. My own opinion is that, once brick came into fashion,—and it did so here at a very early date,—when it was found it could be made in almost every village, and when its durability and warmth were appreciated, the Norfolk builder preferred to stick to this material. Undoubtedly the earliest houses were, as everywhere else, of timber, and when more substantial dwellings were required, these were built of flint, but by the time that the statelier houses had begun to arise, Norfolk, having become an agricultural country, its forests had been

decimated, so that wood was comparatively scarce, and brick had already found its way there. Before describing the brick buildings we will look at some of the few remaining old flint manor houses. These, as I have hinted, are mostly early. I do not want to be misunderstood when I say "few." I am referring to Halls and Manor Houses. There are scores of charming old farmhouses and cottages, built of this material, still standing, especially along the north coast, where perhaps are to be found the majority of flint-built Manor Houses as well.

Elsing Hall is I suppose about the oldest of these. It is near Dereham in the centre of Norfolk. It is still surrounded by a moat; but has been most terribly restored. The Hall, which has almost the only open timber roof in the county, is of the middle or latter part of the fifteenth century, and so are the porch and old chapel, the latter no longer used. This is, no doubt, the work of Sir John Hastings who was here from 1436 to 1470, and who is said to have rebuilt the house, although at the "restoration" fourteenth century foundations were found. The rest of the house was so beautifully restored in 1852 that hardly a trace of its original design can be discovered! From the time of Edward III., when they obtained it by marrying the heiress of the Foliots, Elsing belonged to the Hastings', until a daughter and co-heir of Sir Hugh Hastings married Thomas, son of Sir Antony Brown, Master of the Horse to Henry VIII., and so brought it to that family, whose representatives, through many heiresses, still hold it.

Hunstanton Hall is, though much larger, another ancient moated house. The front is built of chequered flint into which some car-stone is introduced. The

central block with gateway was built by Sir Robert le Strange who died in 1509; the rest is earlier. It is sad to relate that a great portion of the house was burned down about fifty years ago, and what replaced it is not of great merit; but all the part that was saved, roughly about three sides of the quadrangle, is singularly untouched, both inside and out, and, in the long drawing room, on the first floor, is preserved a most interesting series of family portraits; commencing with a Holbein of Sir Thomas, and ending with the present Mr. Hamon le Strange, I believe every intermediary generation is recorded by a portrait. The le Stranges, who are now represented in the female line, came here about 1310.

Mannington Hall is yet another old moated manor house built of flint. Its actual date is uncertain, but apart from the evidence of style, I take it to have been built about 1450, as it is known to have been erected by William Lumner, and he was the grandson of a man who died in 1402. Blomfield, the county historian, says he had a license from the King to build it, but he gives no dates, and I have been unable to find out where the license is recorded. The house has been much pulled about at different times and its plan is difficult to trace. Since 1736 it has belonged, by purchase, to the Walpole family, who have held land in other parts of Norfolk since the reign of Henry II.

Stiffkey Hall is a house of much later date, having been built by Sir Nathaniel Bacon, elder half-brother of the more celebrated Sir Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam. There are two very interesting points about this house; the first is that its plan is of a very early type, *viz.*:—quadrangular with round towers at the corners and with circular stairs in the turrets,

although it cannot have been begun before 1571, when Sir Nicholas Bacon, the father, bought the manor, and probably not before 1557, when Sir Nathaniel inherited it. It certainly bears his Arms and the date 1604 when it, doubtless, was finished. The second point is that it tallies in a most remarkable way with the "ideal house" of Francis Bacon's essay, so much so, that one would think that he was either the author of the plan of Stiffkey or else that this house was in his mind when he wrote his essay. The situation also accords with that described by Lord Bacon (as he is usually, and wrongly, called). It is peculiarly pleasant, being high with a valley in front, through which runs a trout stream, and opposite are hills crowned with woods. It descended from the Bacons to Lord Townshend, the present owner. It is very much a ruin, and is only used as a farmhouse and shooting box. It cannot, now, boast of many internal features of interest; but the long gallery at the top of the house must originally have been very fine. This has just the remains of a beautiful plaster ceiling ornamented with the Bacon Arms.

Gonville Hall in Wymondham Parish. This rather picturesque flint group is now but a farm, and it possesses hardly any feature by which one may date it.

The last flint house I shall mention is one much later in character—whatever the original date of the house may be—and I am inclined to put it a great deal earlier than 1636, which is the date on its front. It contains a great deal of good panelling, some of which, although early Jacobean, is of deal. It stands right on the coast facing due north, and one can well fancy how the howling of the winter winds helped towards its legend of a Shrieking Ghost! *Wiveton Hall* is its name, and its present owner, Colonel Watson-Kennedy, has had a

good deal of trouble in undoing "restorations" of previous possessors.

I now come to what I consider to be the typical houses of East Anglia, *viz.*, those built of brick, and I hope you will allow me to say a few words about their architecture and its origin. I have seen it stated that Tattershall Castle, in Lincolnshire, *circa* 1440, is the earliest brick building in England, and that, by the way, is just about the same date as Eton College, but in Suffolk there is Little Wenham Hall, an early fourteenth century crenellated house; built partly of stone and partly of white brick; but whether the brick is as early as the stone I should not like to say, although it appears to be so. The bricks of Tattershall are said to have been brought over, by sea, from the Low Countries, and it is certainly from thence, metaphorically speaking, that we in East Anglia get both our brick and our particular style. If when we come to Barningham, Morley Old Hall, and other high gabled houses, you will bear this in mind, you will see what a very Flemish air they have. It is, I think, generally accepted that the influence of Flemish art was very strong in eastern England all through the fifteenth century. You have only to look at the brasses, the painting on the church screens, and the execution of East Anglian Missals to realise this; but I rather fancy that, so far as domestic architecture is concerned, the influence from this quarter is usually attributed to the Protestant emigrants of Elizabeth's time, whereas it was undoubtedly exercised at a much earlier date.

So much for its source; now as to the characteristics of the style itself. The chief ones are:

(1) The use of brick. This was carried to the extent of even using it for the mullions of windows. These were

usually cemented over so as to have the appearance of stone, as were the brick quoins of the walls and the door jambs.

(2) The crow-stepped (instead of plain) gable, usually with beautiful brick finials. This form is to be found in the fifteenth century and continued right on to the middle of the seventeenth, and with it went the use of battlements instead of balustrades, even to the curtain walls of court or garden. This was probably because stone was not available for coping or balusters and the battlements seem to form a fitting continuation of the steps of the gables with their heavy tiled coping.

(3) Double dormer windows.

(4) Very ornate chimneys, especially the early ones, which are of terra-cotta usually ornamented with heraldic devices, oft repeated. The later ones are similar to those found in other parts of England, but in the seventeenth century we find a simple chimney stack which is rather peculiar to these parts.

(5) Pediments of stone, or of cement-covered moulded bricks, to windows and doors. Why these occur so frequently I cannot say. They certainly are earlier than the Jacobean period to which they are usually assigned.

(6) The use of terra-cotta, most elaborately moulded; but this is chiefly confined to houses prior to—say—1550.

The plans of Norfolk houses are in no wise different from those found in other parts of England, and the roofs were either covered with tiles, as might be expected, or in the case of smaller houses, especially in the Broads district, with reed thatch.

It is in the use of brick itself, in the crow-stepped gable with its elaborate finials, and in the double

dormers of brick, also crow-stepped, that the Flemish influence shows itself so strongly.

Snowre Hall is the quaint name of my next example. It is probably the oldest domestic brick building in the county. It is now in the parish of Fordham (although originally there was a village of its own name here), and stands on a bit of high ground overlooking the Fens. It gives one the impression of what, in the north, is called a Peel Tower. Its plan is so simple and its walls so thick that I should like to have attributed to it an earlier date; but its details are most decidedly of a fifteenth century character, and I have the authority of Mr. J. A. Gotch for stating that its date must be about 1450. As can be seen from the plan, most kindly drawn for me by one of our members—Mr. Rye—it had originally but two rooms on each floor and a buttress at each corner. It has a battlemented rectangular turret on the west, which also acts as an entrance porch. There is a tiny room above, probably an oratory. It seems likely that there was a similar projection on the east side, as a blocked doorway is clearly visible on the outside of the first floor. In the centre of the house, and running from top to bottom, is a very well contrived hiding hole. It is no doubt for this reason that it was selected as the one Norfolk house that was to have the unique honour of sheltering King Charles the Martyr. This was when he was flying from Oxford with his faithful adherent John Ashburnham, just before he gave himself up to the Scotch Army. *Snowre Hall* was then the property of a good Royalist, one Ralph Skipwith, whose family had owned the Manor before the time of Edward IV., and had no doubt built the house. It has now for many years belonged to the Pratts, a family who have lived at Ryston since 1547.

Oxburgh Hall—more a Castle than a Manor—is one of the oldest, finest, and most interesting brick buildings in Norfolk. Sir Edmund Bedingfeld had a patent from Edward IV., dated July 3rd, 1483 (I have not verified this) enabling him to erect and embattle it), and his direct descendant, Sir Henry Bedingfeld, Bart., lives there still. It has undergone some sad mutilation. Originally quadrangular in form, the south side, containing the great hall and other rooms of interest, was pulled down about 150 years ago, and unfortunately some of the remaining rooms had to be altered in consequence. The two wings thus formed are now joined by a low passage, which is convenient and necessary, but not beautiful. It is the north side of the house which is so perfect. Except for the chimneys and the mullions of the windows it is no doubt exactly as it was when built. I should like specially to draw attention to the stepped gables, whose date is thus put back to about 1480. The moat still surrounds the house entirely. The only way over it is by the bridge. Over the gate house is a beautiful old room called the King's Chamber, where Henry VII. is said to have slept; it is quite in its original state, and is hung with Gothic tapestry of the period.

East Barsham Hall is, alas, practically a ruin and is used as a farmhouse. It is, I suppose, the most picturesque group of old brick buildings in England. According to what is usually accepted, it is a good deal later than *Oxburgh*, being attributed to Sir Henry Fermor, who died in 1533, and, to a greater extent, to his son, Sir William; but some of its features, *viz.*, the three-light window over the entrance door, and the very pointed arch of the gateway, seem to strike a much earlier note.

Denver Hall is strongly reminiscent of *East Barsham*

and the ornate terra-cotta stamps it as being of about 1500. The initials I. W. and E. W. are to be found all over the brickwork, and probably stand for Edward Willoughby, who died in 1491, and his son John.

Fincham Hall, the old seat of the Finchams, which now belongs to Sir Thomas Hare, is, so far as the turret goes, of about the same period; the rest of course is later and is Jacobean. I think its only internal feature of interest is the groined brick ceiling of the staircase in the turret, on which is a shield with the Fincham Arms painted upon it (Barry sa: and arg: a bend erm:).

Hockwold Hall is one of those delightful old houses of many periods, but certainly dates back to the third quarter of the fifteenth century. The stair turret undoubtedly is of that date, and it has a small square pierced stone window of Perpendicular design. Here, again, is the crow-stepped gable, but as the fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (not to omit the eighteenth and nineteenth)! are all represented in different parts of the house I should not care to attribute any special date to it. The modern addition, which can be seen projecting a little, was the work of our talented and respected Secretary. It is simple and unobtrusive, and in no way jars with the older parts, while at the same time it is very pleasing, and, may I add, comfortable inside.

Rainthorpe Hall is said to have been built in 1503. The gables, for a change, at least on the front side, are plain; others, again, have the familiar steps. There is here a certain amount of half-timber work, which is by no means common in this country, and also an octagonal stair turret as at Hockwold. In this case it is still the chief stairway of the house. The portion above the moulded string course was a "restoration" of about fifty years

ago, and quite spoils its proportions. This was done by the then owner, the Hon. Frederick Walpole, who, although a keen and learned antiquary, was, after the manner of his times, a sad restorer. The house contains many panelled rooms, besides oak beamed and moulded plaster ceilings. The hall, now the dining-room, is particularly nice, and has the original bay with a beautiful stone archway. The position of it, however, is odd, as it is at the same end as the fireplace and if this is "*in situ*"—as it appears to be—it is difficult to imagine where the daïs came. In many of the windows is old heraldic glass showing the arms of the Appleyards, who built the house, and who gave the first Mayor to Norwich; and of the Baxters, who followed them here, and of other families. Notwithstanding the mid-Victorian restorations, this is one of the most interesting of Norfolk houses. Sir Charles Harvey is the present and appreciative owner.

Barnham Broom Hall is another old house of about the same period. Like so many similar buildings it has degenerated into a farmhouse. Dreadfully pulled about though it is, what still remains is most interesting. I visited it recently with Mr. Gotch, and even so great an authority as he, was puzzled as to its plan. At first sight it looks as if the big window to the left of the porch had been filled into the archway of the bay of the hall; but on further consideration it seems much more probable that the hall was on the other side of the porch, as we found that the richly carved (late fifteenth or early sixteenth century) beams, of what is now the entrance passage, are carried through to the end wall of the house. Above this is the great chamber with an elaborate ceiling, said to be dated 1614 (but the date we did not discover). It has one great pendant boss in the

centre into which is introduced the crest of the Chamberlains, a family who lived here for a long time. This room is now divided into two by a partition wall. The room beyond has a plaster cornice of a somewhat bolder and older design.

Ashwell Thorpe Hall is but a picturesque fragment with modern additions. The Thorpes and the Kynvetts have lived here so long that it is difficult to say when the original house was built; but no doubt the typically Norfolk gable is of the sixteenth century, as are the little pedimented windows. Baroness Berners, who lives here, is the direct descendant and representative of the Kynvetts.

Shimpling Place is a portion of a Henry VIII. house. I give it as an example of the prevailing style of gable and its particularly good and graceful brick pinnacles. The old brick end of *Old Buckenham Priory* (called Abbey) has a good plain gable and a rather fine chimney stack. It was granted to the Kynvetts at the dissolution, and no doubt they are responsible for this charming old bit of work.

Channonz Hall in Tibbenham was built by Robert Buxton in 1569. This date is over the door. The Buxtons were living in the parish before 1460, and Mrs. Buxton, their direct descendant, still owns the house; but it, again, is now only a farmhouse. One would have felt inclined to have given an earlier date to the beautiful finials (similar to Shimpling) and possibly a later date to the pedimented windows and door, but as the Buxtons did not get possession of the manor of Channonz much before 1560 I think there can be no doubt that the whole building is of the same period. I lay special stress on this because it gives a fairly early date for this treatment of doors and windows which, as

I have said, is so typical of Norfolk architecture. An old painting exists, shewing the house as it was, surrounded by a moat with a small gate house in front, and embattled outer walls ; the house itself having a perfect E front. Sad it is to have to relate that the Mr. Buxton of 1750 cared so little for the beautiful work of his ancestors, that when he went to live at Shadwell some twenty miles away, he tried to pull down this old house, but so well was it built, that gunpowder had to be resorted to before his evil design succeeded. The wing is all that remains of the old house with just the slight "return" of the centre block. I consider that Channonz is as representative an example of the Elizabethan period in Norfolk as Barningham, which we shall come to presently, is of the Jacobean.

Banham Hall is a small timber-framed house with brick ends and chimneys ; here once more we get the regulation gables and windows. I suspect that if uncovered, half-timber work would be shewn, which to my mind (being in Norfolk), would make the house of a date rather prior to those of which I have been treating. It was, however, plastered over early, as is evinced by the pargetting in the centre. It has a splendid moat fed by a running stream, and the remains of the bridge. It is L-shaped as to plan. Until within recent years it was lived in by the Clarkes, a family who owned it for over two centuries, but it is now a farmhouse. It has recently passed into the hands of Mr. Lionel Robinson, who has had it carefully repaired on thoroughly sound lines.

Costessey Hall is a house with a rather unusual history. The Manor, anciently a Royal one, was granted in 1553 by Queen Mary to Sir Henry Jerningham, her strong and loyal supporter. The house must have existed then

as she honoured him with a visit there, but soon after he started to rebuild it, and the date over the porch is 1564. I have taken the trouble to verify this, somewhat to my disappointment, as I hoped to be able to point to a perfect E shaped house that was earlier than the time of Elizabeth, not that that theory is much regarded nowadays. Here we see the same gables and pinnacles, and also a battlemented parapet. The house is no doubt built of brick but the outside is harled. The interior is quaint and delightful, and mostly of the post-restoration period. The Jerninghams are, as they always have been, strong Catholics, and in one of the attics is an interesting relic of the "penal" times, in the form of a secret chapel with a folding altar and pulpit. I can imagine you are all wondering what is the Castle behind the old house. It is a gigantic, red-brick addition of about 1850 and is still unfinished. One always felt that great credit was due to the Jerninghams for, at least, keeping intact their old home; but I have recently been told by a member of the family that its preservation was mainly due to our late lamented Sovereign King Edward VII. The story I was told is, I think, worth recording, because among his many merits, such a reverence for old buildings and all that they mean is not usually attributed to him. It appears that one of his first visits, after he became a Norfolk squire, was to Lord Stafford at Costessey, at the time of a Norwich Festival. His host rather apologised to the then Prince of Wales for being obliged to receive him in so small and old-fashioned a hall, and added that he hoped on a future occasion to have replaced it by something more worthy of the reception of the Heir to the Throne. "What, destroy this old house," replied the Prince. "Oh you must not do that, it is history." And so it stands to this day.

Morley Old Hall is a beautiful and very characteristic specimen of the type I have been speaking of. It is very nearly perfect as to plan and exterior, but alas a vandal friend of mine who shall be nameless (who is also a keen antiquary) took away, not long ago, all the old panelling, doors, and mantelpieces. The last items are not so much to be deplored, as the alteration thus necessitated has caused the old arched fireplaces to be exposed. One curious feature in this house is that, while the windows on the west side have moulded brick dripstones, those on the east are all pedimented. It was built by the Sedleys, who came to Norfolk from Kent in the sixteenth century. Its date is probably about 1570, unless the square-headed windows on the west side point to something earlier. The moat, though rather grown up with reeds, is almost perfect, and the double dormers are very good.

Breccles Hall is a very interesting old house of various dates from the fifteenth century onwards. It was recently restored by Mr. Detmar Blow. The general result is good and if one cannot approve of everything, one must remember that had not Mr. Hanbury, its present owner, taken it in hand it would literally have tumbled down, and therefore a great deal can be forgiven. My chief reason for taking it as an example is because of the splendid forecourt walls and gateways, heightened with battlements, and the curious old gateway with a top like an inverted pair of spectacles.

Dickleburgh Hall shows some old wood carving of about 1500 over the door.

Swardeston Hall—now called Gowthorpe Manor—is a most puzzling house of various dates. Undoubtedly parts of the old house—generally said to have been destroyed during Kett's Rebellion in 1547—still exist,

but the greater part of what we now see was built in 1574, which date is on the old stone porch. A great many hours, not to say days, might be spent in trying to unravel the plan of this house. For instance, the piece joining the two gables is dated 1638 and is a mere passage. One cannot suppose that previously these were two separate blocks and yet the fact that this passage has at both ends been built into an already existing outer wall is very hard to understand. The staircase, which is in a little gable on the other side of the house, is of early fifteenth century work. It is spiral in design, but made of oak, not stone.

Spixworth Hall is a charming old building. The outline of its plan with projecting wings, its gables, pinnacles and pediments, proclaim its Elizabethan origin, while its late seventeenth-century additions tend to vary it in a very pleasant way. Originally built by the Southwells, previous to 1570, it was reconstructed by one William Peck, in 1609, and after having been acquired by the Longes in 1691, which family still own it, it underwent the latest alterations. It, again, has the prevailing gables.

Blo' Norton Hall—with the quaint apostrophe in its name—is one of the nicest of the smaller manor houses of Norfolk in that any alterations—and there are not many—which have taken place have been gradual and unobtrusive. Like Banham, it is a timber-framed house with brick ends and chimneys, but in this case the plastering is late, probably about 1680. The plaster on the west side, having become rotten, has recently had to be removed and a very interesting half-timber wall was thus exposed, together with some small early mullioned windows. The exact date of this house is hard to determine. There is a terra-cotta disc incised with

the initials E. H. B., and the date 1585 on one chimney, representing Elizabeth Brampton, widow, and her son Henry, who no doubt did a considerable amount of rebuilding here at about that date. But I have it on high authority that the mouldings of the four-centred arch of the hall fireplace and the sections of some of the wooden mullions are more like 1535 than 1585. Apart from this the site is a very ancient one, and it is known that a house stood here in the fifteenth century, if not indeed long before. There is, as is fitting, a ghost. About the time of the Restoration the then owner, Gawdy Brampton, is said to have gambled the estate away and then to have committed suicide in an attic which was only accessible by a staircase leading from his bedroom. This has long been done away with, but his ghost still creaks up an imaginary stairs.

Barningham Hall is externally by far the best and most representative example of Norfolk Jacobean brickwork. It possesses all the essentials, *viz.*, the crow-stepped gables, the pinnacles, the pedimented doors and windows, and the double dormers. Nearly all these features we have found in earlier houses, but even if the date, 1613, were not carved over the entrance door the compact plan, no longer with projecting windows, etc., would alone show that we had reached the seventeenth century. Edward Paston, a member of the very old Norfolk family of the Pastons of Paston, was the builder of this beautiful old house and one is only sorry that the interior does not remain as intact as the outside. The Pastons came to an end about 1750 and since then it has been owned by the family of Mr. Mott, its present possessor. As a specimen of Jacobean brickwork it is hard to beat.

Wilby Hall was built by Robert Wilton about 1630. It was certainly not erected before 1623, as his father

was alive then and it was not built until after his death. It is later in form, as we should expect, having only very slightly extended wings. The gables and pediments should be noted as bringing down these details to the time of Charles I. Robert Wilton was an ardent Royalist in a county which could not boast of too many. On his tombstone he is described as "A faithful patriot and a true lover of his country." He died, sad to say, just three years before the longed-for Restoration. A lady, Elizabeth Windham by name, in the year of King Charles' murder, scratched with a diamond on an attic window here, the date, her name and a Latin inscription. "Alas, how can I tune my lute to a broken heart," is the pathetic translation of her posy.

Blickling Hall is one of those grand houses distinctive of no particular district but happily to be found all over England. It is in a sense the finest house in Norfolk and therefore I think that no account of the old houses of the county would be quite complete without it.

I have laid stress, even at the risk of boring you, on what I hold to be the distinctive details of East Anglian domestic architecture, so I will take as my last example *Marlingford Old Hall*, a plain square house with late flat mullioned windows and a late seventeenth century door and its date on the gables, 1679.

I think this makes a fitting end of the series, bringing down, as it does, that crow-stepped form of gable which we first noticed at Oxburgh in about 1480, to a date almost two hundred years later. Had time and your patience permitted I could have instanced numberless other examples to prove the points I have discussed but I hope you will realise the strong "family likeness" and the striking peculiarities I originally spoke of, and also how interesting and beautiful are "Some Norfolk Manor Houses."

Note.—The whole lecture was profusely illustrated with lantern slides.

Mr. John Henry Gurney, J.P., proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer, and pointed out that the facts and particulars collected by His Highness were of great value, as in the future it might not have been possible otherwise to obtain them.

Mr. G. T. Pilcher, in seconding the proposal, expressed the opinion that if the Society had in each county a member who would take as much interest and trouble as His Highness had done in Norfolk, its influence for good would be greatly increased.

The motion was agreed to with acclamation and Prince Frederick Duleep Singh briefly responded.

A vote of thanks to the Society of Antiquaries for the use of the room was passed on the motion of Mr. Francis Buxton, seconded by Miss May Morris. This was acknowledged by Mr. Philip Norman, LL.D., F.S.A., the Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries, who expressed his satisfaction at seeing so many Fellows present.

On the motion of Mr. Philip Norman a vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman for presiding.

The Chairman having responded, the proceedings terminated.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

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STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1909.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1908, as per last statement ...	110 11 3	By Payments during the year 1909:	
" Receipts during the year 1909:		Head Master, Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, for the Repair Fund of the Hospital of St. John-the-Baptist	3 0 0
Donations ...	3 3 0	Rector of West Walton, Norfolk, for Church Repair Fund	3 3 0
Amount received for specified buildings ...	15 14 0	Rector of Fincham, Norfolk, for Church Repair Fund	1 0 0
		Ven. Archdeacon Bruce, for Skenfrith Church, Mon., Repair Fund	1 0 0
		Rector of Parracombe, Devon, for Old Church Repair Fund	1 0 0
		Vicar of Potter Heigham, Norfolk, for Church Repair Fund	4 3 0
		Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1909	116 2 3
			<u>£129 8 3</u>
			<u>13 6 0</u>
			<u>116 2 3</u>
			<u>£129 8 3</u>

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To Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, as per last statement	117 1 8	By Amount transferred to General Account	25 0 0
„ Interest	1 16 1	„ Amount on Deposit, London City and Midland Bank	93 17 9
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RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.						
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.				
To Balance at the 31st December, 1908, as per last statement			5	10	3		By Payments during the year 1909:			
" Receipts during the year 1909:							Printing	37	2	2
Annual and Life Subscriptions	286	1	1				Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses			
Donations	13	16	6				Members' Travelling Expenses	22	12	7
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings and Sale of Reports							Mr. Stanwell Birkett, towards the cost of opposing the destruction of the Ironmongers' Almshouses, Shoreditch (including a donation of £5 from the Society)	29	7	0
Received towards the cost of opposing the destruction of the Ironmongers' Almshouses, Shoreditch	3	4	6				The Honorary Treasurer of the Whitgift Hospital Preservation Committee	31	17	6
Received for the Whitgift Hospital Preservation Committee	26	17	6				Secretary's Salary		10	0
Transferred from Morris Fund	25	0	0				Clerk's Salary	120	0	0
							Rent of Office	91	0	0
								25	0	0
									357	9
									3	10
									7	

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 Rev. James Vatcher, *The Vicarage, Clave, Suffolk (Hon. Mem.)*
 Rev. Sydney Vatcher, *St. Philip's Vicarage, London Hospital, Stepney, E.*
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 Rev. Hamilton Stewart Verschoyle, *Courmayeur, Val d'Aosta, Italy.*
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P. Williams, Penn House, Eton College.

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Count Zorzi, Venice. (Hon. Mem.)

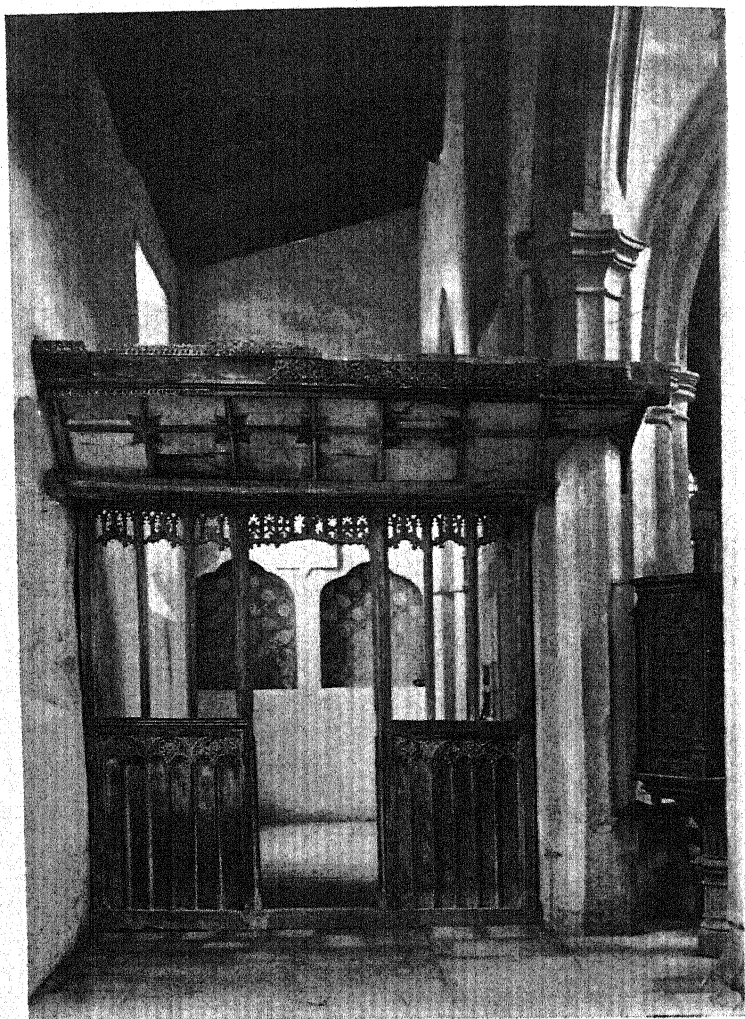
If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following members :

G. F. Campfield.
Felix T. Cobbold, M.P.
Miss Jenner.
Dowager Lady Lawson.
A. J. Munby, F.S.A.
Cormell Price.

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HANBOROUGH CHURCH, OXFORDSHIRE.
SCREEN OF NORTH CHAPEL; AFTER REPAIR

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION
OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS. THIRTY-
FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE. ∴ ∴ ∴ JUNE, 1911.

THACKERAY TURNER, SECRETARY,
20, BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND,
LONDON.

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F. A. WHITE
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INTRODUCTION.

THIS, the Thirty-fourth Annual Report, contains a selection of typical cases, from which may be gathered a general idea of the Society's work during the past year.

It will be recalled that last year there were many cases where the Society's aid had been asked for. It is significant that in this year there have been even more; the extent of the Society's influence is shown too by the fact that the appeals have come from such widely different sources as incumbents of Churches, ecclesiastical guardians, municipal corporations and private owners. This more widespread reliance on the Society is due to three things; a better and clearer knowledge of its principles; a more general appreciation of the results achieved by its methods of reparation, and an increasing distrust of what is generally implied by "restoration."

At the present time considerations of money usually forbid that Ancient Buildings should be kept standing simply for their intrinsic value as records of the ways of our forefathers and examples of their handiwork. To safeguard these buildings from the danger of destruction, therefore, it becomes necessary that they should be adapted to work-a-day uses. Such adaptation the Society endeavours to secure consistently with the preservation, not only

of features of architectural interest, commonly so-called, but of all qualities and characteristics of every kind, such as colour-tones and surface textures, and furthermore of all evidences of change and growth.

Questions concerning the preservation of Ancient Buildings cannot properly be dealt with on hard-and-fast lines; no two cases are alike,—any more than two ancient buildings are alike—and no two call for exactly the same treatment. The practice of dealing with questions of difficulty by round-table conference has always commended itself to the wisdom of the people of this land; and it is by the use of this custom that the Society's opinions carry the weight which they do. However excellent the advice of an individual architect, antiquary, historian, painter, or sculptor may be, such advice cannot but be limited by the customary habit of thought of its author. In its application to Ancient Buildings it is therefore to be received with caution; for an Ancient Building, while made up of particulars, each in a sense appertaining to some special calling, yet as an entity cannot be said to belong exclusively to any one calling, but is common to many. And so the Society holds that in dealing with such Buildings it is through conference, and through conference only, that advice adequate to the needs can be secured. Accordingly, week by week at meetings of the Committee, men and women of various walks in the world of Arts and Letters, drawn by common reverence for old work, meet together, and bring to bear on the cases under consideration the sum of their knowledge, so that after deliberation the issues may be made clear and plans of action formulated.

This short note may assist those, not being members of the Society, into whose hands this Report may fall, to comprehend the spirit in which the Society approaches its work.

Abingdon Abbey, Berkshire.

The attention of the Society was drawn to the condition of the mediæval chimney of the Abbey, and to the need for dealing with it without delay. Representations were therefore made to the Abingdon Corporation—who hold a lease of the ruins—with the result that the necessary works of reparation are to be undertaken at an early date.

The chimney is a beautiful piece of handicraft. The shaft appears to be in good repair, but the stones of the roof and apertures are disjointed and loose. The pierced stones in the gables are considerably out of upright, and look as if they might fall if not seen to very soon; the verges also are in a very ragged state.

Ancient House, Alvechurch, Worcestershire.

A proposal to demolish an old half-timber house in the village of Alvechurch, so as to widen the main road from Birmingham to Pershore, was brought to the Committee's notice. The road at this point was found to be in fact so narrow as to be dangerous; but upon investigation it was apparent that it could be widened quite satisfactorily by removing an uninteresting building standing opposite to the ancient house.

A gentleman who holds a prominent position in connexion with the Worcestershire County Council has promised that if the scheme for road-widening is eventually carried out, he will press for the inclusion of provisions, either for retaining the house in its entirety or for taking off only a very small portion of one corner; he also stated that the house was in no immediate danger, but that when the scheme was further advanced he would, if necessary, communicate again with the Society.

The Old Guildhall, Boston, Lincolnshire.

It is most satisfactory to hear that at a Town's meeting held at Boston recently it was decided, as a memorial to the late King Edward VII., to carry out the works necessary for the preservation of this valuable building, on the lines of the report prepared by the Society ; and for that purpose to appeal for funds.

A description of the Guildhall was given in the last report (pp. 10-11).

Bridge, Brandon, Suffolk.

The ancient bridge over the Little Ouse at Brandon is threatened with destruction. The Committee, learning from the public press that the West Suffolk County Council had been advised that the bridge was absolutely unsafe and would have to be rebuilt, wrote offering its services. The offer was accepted, and a report was drawn up and sent to the County Council. It stated that so far as the structural condition of the Bridge was concerned no doubt was held as to the possibility of its preservation; since, of the four archways, two were in good condition, the other two quite reparable; the piers sound except for one, which was cracked; the foundations secure; and the parapets quite easy of repair. Any question of reconstruction, therefore, could only turn on the sufficiency of the roadway for the traffic.

Both approaches are fairly straight and amply wide ; the clear width of the Bridge is twenty feet at the south end, decreasing to ten feet six inches at the middle, and increasing again to twelve feet three inches at the north end. The first archway from the south is semi-circular, of brickwork, and is in good condition. The brickwork of the parapets above is loose and somewhat decayed, but the coping-stones are sound. The second archway is similar to the first; the arch,

however, has an outer ring of stone on each face. It is sound, except for one of the facing-stones of the arch on the down-stream side which is loose and held up only by an iron cramp. The third or principal archway is as regards material like the second, but the arch instead of being semi-circular is pointed. A settlement has taken place at the apex on the down-stream side, and a part of the brickwork and stone facing displaced by it is secured with iron surface-cramps. The bricks on the soffit have decayed; and in the northern pier on the down-stream side there is a crack about two feet in from the face extending from the water level up to the apex of the arch, and another, not so serious, about three feet further in at the water level. The brickwork on the outer faces of both the parapets above is somewhat weather-worn and loose; and the parapet on the up-stream side leans outward.

The fourth archway, that on the north end, has a low segmental brick arch with an outer ring of stone on each face. It is in good condition, except that one of the facing-stones on the down-stream side is loose and held up by an iron cramp. The brickwork of its parapets is loose and somewhat decayed.

The weakest part of the bridge is over the pointed archway, where at the apex it is only about one foot seven inches thick, and the height of the parapet three feet.

In forwarding the report to the County Council, the Committee stated that, in the event of it being essential that the bridge should be widened, it would welcome an opportunity of advising how, in the opinion of the Society, the object could be attained without destroying its picturesque qualities.

The Committee was informed recently by the County Council that the maintenance and repair of Bridge was the duty of the Thetford Town Council. It therefore forwarded

a copy of the report to the Town Council, and it understands the question is now under the consideration of that body.

Branscombe Church, Devon.

In the last report (p. 11) it was stated that there was a prospect of some works being undertaken at this most beautiful "unrestored" Church, and that it had been visited. Thereafter, the Society sent to the Vicar a report giving the works of repair recommended, and an approximate estimate of their cost.

A view of the Church was given in the report for 1906. It is built of local stone, the walls, which are about three feet thick, being plastered inside. The tower and two-thirds of the nave appear to date from the twelfth century. In the thirteenth, the extension of the nave and the transepts were probably built, and at that time, too, the pointed arches in the east and west walls of the tower, replacing smaller Norman openings, would seem to have been made.

The chancel was most likely in existence before the reconstruction of the tower arches; there is, however, no evidence of any earlier work than that of the fourteenth century windows in its north and south walls, and the piscina of the same date—now built up.

The nave roof, apparently, dates from the fifteenth century, and so does the five-light window in the east wall of the chancel. Of about the same period too is the work of the upper stage of the turret staircase and of the west doorway of the nave; the three-light window in the south wall is somewhat later.

The only modern alterations to the fabric seem to be the three-light window over the porch, and the two-light window in the south wall of the tower.

The nave, transepts and crossing are seated with deal

box-pews, four feet high, on a floor of oak boarding six inches higher than the stone paving of the passages. At the west end of the nave there is a Jacobean gallery, which has been brought forward about ten feet, and the space behind filled in with modern work, probably when the deal pews were made about the beginning of the last century.

On the south side of the nave is a "three-decker" pulpit, of oak, with the exception of the front of the clerk's desk which is of deal.

The east archway of the tower has a seventeenth century screen with delicately turned balusters in the upper part.

The sanctuary is enclosed with "Laudian" Altar rails which stand on a raised boarded floor. The rails do not extend to the full width of the chancel, but on the north side return against a projecting monument, and on the south against the east wall, along which they continue.

The old Altar, which is small, stands to the south side of the sanctuary, where it serves as a credence table, and the Altar now used is modern.

The Committee has had considerable correspondence with the Vicar regarding the works to be done to the Church, and feels some concern as to its fate; for whereas the Society's estimate of the cost of what is necessary to preserve the fabric and to fit it for Divine worship is £1,500, that of what is proposed by the Architect is £2,000; and the Society's experience is that the amount of the difference is amply sufficient, if injudiciously expended, to deplete the Church of much of the charm it now possesses.

Chapel, The Royal Latin School, Buckingham.

An appeal is being made by the National Trust for funds to purchase and repair the ancient Chapel of the Royal Latin School, Buckingham.

In 1907, when the institution was removed to new premises, the greater part of the old property was sold. The Chantry Chapel, however, which had been connected with the School from its inception and which, in fact, was built some 300 years before its endowment, was excepted; and to insure its preservation the Governors have now offered to dispose of it to the National Trust for £200. To put it into proper structural condition, a further sum of £100 is needed, and a report stating the work necessary was made by the Society. The Building is sixteen feet nine inches long and thirty-eight feet two inches wide, inside. The walls are of stone, the outer faces rubble and the inner plaster. It has an open-timbered roof of four bays, said to have been constructed in 1776 from timbers of the old Parish Church. The principals have good tie-beams, and the timbering, which is of oak, seems sound. The covering is of hand-made tiles, which apparently are serviceable though some are loose and others displaced. About midway in the south wall is the original Norman doorway, in good preservation; the semi-circular head is enriched with zig-zag ornament, and the jambs have detached shafts with caps and bases. The door and frame are more modern. A photograph of this doorway is given.

There is a two-light fifteenth-century window near the east end of the south wall, and below it a piscina. Near the west end are two square-headed windows, one above the other, made in 1875 when the building was "restored" by Sir Gilbert Scott; the bell-cote on the east gable and the mullions and tracery of the east window are also his work. Over the doorway in the south wall is a modern circular window with cusps, and in the north wall two more like it.

At the west end there is a small gallery with the front made up of old bench-ends, one is dated 1626, one 1652, and one has "Thomas Grove Gen^t." carved on the front face.

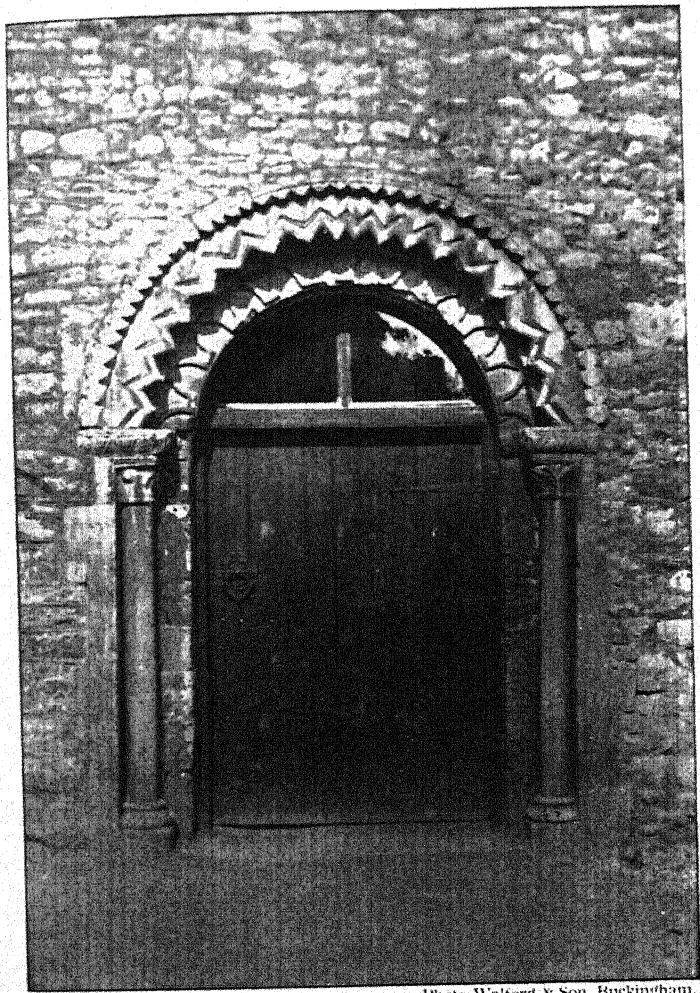


Photo Walford & Son, Buckingham.

NORMAN DOORWAY,
CHAPEL OF THE ROYAL LATIN SCHOOL, BUCKINGHAM

There are two small desks constructed of fifteenth-century bench-ends. The walls are lined with oak panelling of the eighteenth century. The windows have modern glass in leaded lights. The paving, which is of wood blocks, is in good order.

It is earnestly hoped that the sum appealed for will soon be forthcoming, so that the preservation of this, the oldest building in Buckingham, may be ensured.

St. Mary's Church, Bunney, Notts.

This is an interesting Church, of which the nave, apparently the earliest part, dates from the middle of the thirteenth century; the chancel from the fourteenth; and the aisles, nave-clerestory, porch—which is on the south—and the western tower, from early in the fifteenth.

A report—of which the following is a digest—as to the state of the fabric and the works necessary for its preservation, was drawn up and sent to the Authorities; and it is satisfactory to note that they have accepted the recommendations, and stated that they intend to carry them into effect shortly, under the directions of the Society.

In the chancel, the outer faces of the walls are ashlar sandstone, and the inner plaster. The east window is of five-lights and square-headed, and appears to have had the mullions and tracery renewed in the eighteenth century; in the north and south walls the windows retain their fourteenth-century jambs and arches; but mullions and interlacing tracery of brick covered with plaster replace the original, except in the eastmost window in the south wall, where there is a recent "restoration" of stone mullions, elaborate tracery and stained glass. Below this window there is a fine double piscina and triple sedilia, in good preservation. The sanctuary step is to the east of its original position. There are

two doorways, one toward the west end of the south wall and the other in the north wall, leading into the sanctuary.

The chancel roof is constructed with oak throughout, and covered with cast lead; it is flat-pitched except for the two western bays, which have been reconstructed and heightened. Most of the timbers seem to be sound; but the lead is faulty and the sheets are much too wide. There is a stone parapet, with pinnacles over the buttresses; the parapet is sound but the stonework of the pinnacles is loose and needs attention. The two at the east end of the south wall have been "restored" with crockets and finial, out of keeping with the rest of the work.

The nave is of five bays; the arcades have pointed arches and round piers with moulded caps and bases. The south arcade is upright, but the north leans outward. The south piers have been underpinned with flat stones and their bases repaired with cement; sundry slight cracks, however, denote slight settlement, and the eastmost pier has bulged. The clerestory keeps its original two-light windows, with mullions and tracery, in good condition. The north parapet is sound, but the stonework of that on the south is loose and parts of the traceried panels are missing.

The nave roof is of oak and is flat-pitched, with the exception of the two eastmost bays, dated 1718, which at that time were reconstructed and heightened. In the three westmost bays the timbers are in bad repair, and many of the rafters are of deal. The cast-lead covering is much worn and patched, and the falls of the gutters behind the parapets are insufficient.

The outer faces of the walls of the south aisle and porch are pointed rubble; the masonry seems to be sound. The jambs and arches of the aisle windows are the original; but the mullions and tracery are of brick plastered, like those of the chancel windows. The top battlement of the parapet is

missing and so are parts of the traceried panels; the pinnacles too, are weatherworn and in need of repair.

The aisle roof has been renewed recently with deal stained, with a covering of milled lead. The porch has a stone vaulted roof covered with slabs of stone; in the side walls are two-light windows with mullions and tracery, in good preservation.

The north wall of the north aisle leans outwards. This defect probably came about at the same time as that in the north wall of the nave, and arose from the thrust transmitted by the roof timbers. The windows are like those of the south aisle, and have modern mullions and tracery; the window in the east wall is altogether modern. The roof is also of deal with milled lead covering. As regards the Tower, the walls are sound; but too many bells have been crowded into the belfry. Five are hung from an old oak frame which has been cut about so much as to be dangerous, and in places touches the walls. A sixth bell has been hung on a separate frame at a higher level. The mullions and tracery are missing from the belfry windows. The gutter behind the tower parapet has lost its lead lining. The tower is surmounted by a lofty crocketed stone spire.

The inside of the Church appears to be generally in good repair. The chancel is paved with stone; the nave, with machine-made tiles in the passages and wood-blocks elsewhere. Across the chancel-arch is a fifteenth-century screen, complete except for the cornice, which is of much later date. In the chancel and in the nave clerestory the windows keep their old crown glass; but those in the aisles have Cathedral glass, which strikes a jarring note. A modern font at the west end of the south aisle has ousted one of the eighteenth century, which now stands in the corner of the aisle. The nave is seated with chairs; the pulpit, altar rails and the altar are modern.

At the foot of the south wall of the aisle, is a surface channel of blue bricks; the chancel and north aisle have no channel. The rain-water heads and down-pipes of the chancel and nave are of lead; those of the aisles of iron.

Generally, with the exception of the exterior faces of the walls, the leadwork of the nave and chancel roofs, and the north walls of the nave and north aisle, which it will be remembered lean outwards, the building is in sound condition, and the necessary repairs will be neither extensive nor difficult to effect.

Burton Coggles Church, Lincolnshire.

In this case the Society was approached by the Rector, who wished for advice with regard to the preservation of the fabric.

The Church has a chancel; nave, with north and south aisles; south porch; and western tower, with a stone spire.

About thirty-eight years ago the chancel was restored by Mr. Pugin, when the greater part of the south and east walls was rebuilt, a steep-pitched slated roof constructed, and the floor relaid with tessellated tiles.

Happily the remainder of the Church, which is of much interest, escaped.

The nave is wide and has beautiful arcades, of three bays; the south, of fourteenth century workmanship, and the north of fifteenth. Unfortunately at some time the old plaster finishing of the inside wall surfaces was removed and the rough stonework pointed and left exposed to view. The nave roof, which is flat-pitched, is of oak, with rafters framed over five principals, covered with boarding and cast lead. The timbers appear to be sound, and the lead in fair condition.

The south arcade, which springs from a corbel in the east wall, has thrust out the angle; but a modern stone buttress;

outside seems to have arrested the movement, though it is now decayed and in need of repair. Over the eastmost bay of the arcade is a crack in the wall, extending through the clerestory window; the east wall is cracked from the foundation upwards, and so is the masonry of the eastmost window in the south aisle.

The chancel arch appears to be sound, and the north arcade is well abutted by the Rood loft staircase in the angle behind the respond. A settlement at the east angle of the north aisle has caused cracks in the east and north walls; elsewhere the masonry is in fair repair.

The roof of the north aisle is in character like that of the nave; but the south aisle retains its fourteenth-century roof, which is in fair condition. The cast-lead on the roofs of the aisles and porch is too worn to be repaired satisfactorily, and should be re-cast.

The tower and spire appear to be sound. The belfry has three bells hung on an oak frame, dated 1829, standing free of the walls on oak beams. The treble bell has lost its canons, but the other two are intact.

The very fine font stands under the tower, where it is so dark that artificial light is needed.

There are two interesting stone effigies crowded into the south porch.

It is estimated that the works of repair will cost about £425, and the Rector has issued an appeal for this sum. The Committee trusts his efforts will be successful.

Cawston Church, Norfolk.

A description of the magnificent roofs of this building was given in the report for 1905 (pp. 16-18). It is feared that it is the intention of the church authorities to restore them, for at a public meeting held at Cawston recently, the Rector

is reported to have said, referring to the nave roof, "the mouldings and carved work (of which a good deal is missing) was to be restored to the original design," and also to have expressed a wish that the aisle roofs should be dealt with at the same time. The Society, in a report made in 1904, estimated that the necessary repairs to the nave roof could be carried out for about £750; and it is significant that what is now proposed is estimated at £1,450.

However, the work has been begun; and the Committee is trying to obtain photographs showing the roofs before and after "restoration."

Cors-y-Gedol Hall, Dyffryn, Merionethshire.

Hearing that extensive alterations were contemplated to this interesting building, the earliest portions of which would seem to date from 1576, the Committee approached the owner, who accepted the offer of a visit, and most courteously received the Society's representative. A report was sent to him, and the Committee understands that the greater part of the recommendations will be adopted by the architect having charge of the work.

Moreover, the owner has been good enough to inform the Committee that the visit was a source of genuine pleasure to him.

Whitgift Hospital, Croydon, Surrey.

A few months ago the Croydon County Council resolved to apply to the Local Government Board for provisional powers to deal with certain properties the demolition of which was common to the scheme which involved the destruction of Whitgift Hospital and to that in which provision was made for its retention.

The Whitgift Hospital Preservation Committee, fearing

that the proposals of the Council might be part of a larger scheme which would imperil the Hospital, thought that until the line which would be adopted in respect of the other frontages was disclosed, the powers sought for should be resisted. They therefore arranged for opposition to the Council's proposals at a Local Government Board enquiry; with the satisfactory result that the powers sought were refused.

Furthermore, the President of the Local Government Board has informed the Croydon County Council that the Board will withhold approval from any scheme for a further widening of North End which may involve interference with the buildings of Whitgift Hospital on the east side of the road.

The gratitude of all lovers of ancient buildings is due to the President of the Local Government Board for his action in definitely stating that no interference with the Hospital buildings will be countenanced; and it is trusted that it may now be that the Town Authorities will abandon once and for all their efforts to encroach on the Site.

Downton-on-the-Rock Church, Herefordshire.

Since the year 1886 the Committee has from time to time taken action with a view to the preservation of this most interesting building, now disused,—reference to which was made in the Report for 1888, (p. 23)—but so far its efforts have had no practical result.

Recently the Committee's attention was drawn to the fact that the building was rapidly falling into decay. Appeal was therefore made to the Lord Bishop of Hereford praying that his Lordship would use his influence in favour either of steps being taken to repair the Church, or of its being brought under the provisions of the Ancient Monuments'

Protection Act. In reply, his Lordship asked whether the Society would be prepared to give any donation toward the cost of the works recommended? He was informed that, in the event of their being carried out in accordance with the Society's principles, it would be willing to contribute a small sum from its Building Fund, and also to recommend the case to the Members for support.

It is sincerely to be hoped that, even if it is not found possible to carry out all the works required, this priceless building will not be allowed to fall into ruin.

East Harling Church Spire, Norfolk.

Notes as to the condition of this spire appeared in last year's Report (pp. 20-1).

The works required to strengthen it have been carried out under the personal direction of the Architect, in consultation with the Society.

After scaffolding had been put up round the lantern, the lead covering was carefully stripped from the crocketed pinnacles on the detached posts. It was then seen that in most cases the oak was quite rotten, through the wet which had come in through the hole in the leadwork for the iron rod of the vane. The parts which were defective have been renewed with English oak, scarfed on to the sound work, and the old lead carefully replaced. The flying-buttresses between the posts and the lantern were found to be loose in the joints, and have been secured by wrought iron bolts passed through the posts and timbers of the lantern. This was done in each case without removing the leadwork, by opening the joints at the back and front, boring the oak, and, after inserting the bolt, reclosing the joint.

The leadwork of the spire has been overhauled and repaired where necessary, and a lightning-conductor has been

attached to the weather-vane and connected by a copper tape to a good earth contact, well away from the north wall. The weather-vane also has been repaired and put into working order.

The question of the bells is still in abeyance, but it is hoped that the work of rehangng will be undertaken before long.

Edstaston Church, Shropshire.

This Church, which still retains much of its original twelfth-century work, has a nave and chancel under one roof, a south-west porch, and a modern vestry on the north of the chancel. In the north wall are two of the original Norman windows; the remainder are insertions of the fourteenth or fifteenth century. In the south wall is a fine Norman doorway in excellent preservation. In a corresponding position on the north is a door like it, but smaller, and in the south wall of the chancel a low side-door for the priest, also Norman.

Some works of restoration were carried out in 1882, but when a short time ago the Church was visited on behalf of the Society it was found to be in need of attention in many directions.

The works recommended were undertaken in the early part of this year, and carried out in consultation with the Society under an Architect, directing the workmen on the spot.

After removing the ivy from the walls, the foundations were examined and found to be of cobble stones bedded in clay, barely a foot below the original surface of the ground; those of the modern buttresses on the north side were even more scanty, which quite accounted for the buttresses having parted from the walls they were intended to support. Wherever there had been movement in the walls, the foun-

dations were taken out and four feet of cement concrete substituted. In this way were underpinned the north wall from the west end to the vestry (except the parts below the windows); three of the four north buttresses; the buttresses at the east end; and the south wall on either side of the priest's door.

The joints of all the walls were raked and pointed; soft stones were treated with baryta and lime; and missing parts pieced up with hand-made tiles in lime mortar, the edges of the tiles being left exposed, as their colour blended well with that of the red sandstone walls. The jambs of the north door and priest's door were strengthened with a concrete core; the face stones being removed a few at a time, and re-fixed after the concrete had been inserted. The lower part of the south wall of the chancel, which was riddled with ivy roots, large and small, was dealt with in the same way.

The whole of the roof tiling was relaid. The plaster ceiling, which had been applied directly to the underside of the tile lathing, fell as the tiles were removed. In replastering, independent lathing was fixed to fillets nailed to the sides of the rafters, which gave an air space to keep the plaster dry and to assist in protecting the church from extremes of temperature. Opportunity was taken to replace the "ornamental" cresting of the porch roof with worked stone ridging.

At the restoration in 1882, a surface channelling of blue brick had been formed round part of the walls. This was removed and the whole building surrounded with a channelling of York stone, bedded on four inches of cement concrete. The defective iron guttering was removed, and cast sheet-lead heads and down-pipes substituted for the existing, which were of cast iron.

Examination of the internal wall surfaces revealed ancient paintings, of which many parts still remained. They were carefully uncovered, cleaned, and preserved by

Professor Church's paraffin-wax method. The earlier paintings, which for the most part were of a date rather later than that of the erection of the Church, had been covered in some places by later work of the fifteenth century, while in others the Apostles Creed and, presumably, the Lord's Prayer had been super-imposed in the seventeenth century. Beginning at the north-west corner of the nave the subjects are as follow, the work being of twelfth—thirteenth century date, unless otherwise stated:—The Flight into Egypt—a preliminary sketch of St. Joseph's head is visible under the final version; the Annunciation (?); the Trinity adored by choirs of Angels, with a Latin text issuing from above and a representation of a fish below; the Visit of the Three Kings and the Apostles Creed (seventeenth century). Round the Chancel, single figures of Saints, among whom St. James of Compostella and a mitred Bishop are recognisable. Returning to the nave, south side, a Consecration Cross with an inscription to Our Lady; the Nativity (fifteenth century); the lower part of three Robed Figures, and below an object unidentified, and two Angels supporting an Aureoled Head; a Female Figure; St. John the Baptist holding the Lamb.

Lesser works to the Church included, the repair of the bell wheels and provision of new wire ropes; painting the flag-pole and providing a new copper wire halliard; new churchyard gates of English oak, with wrought iron hinges and handles made by the village blacksmith; repairs to the churchyard walls; removal of the paint and graining from the Jacobean oak pulpit, and of the varnish from the twelfth-century nave doors, and repairing and painting the contemporary ironwork; cleaning and varnishing the Royal Arms; and the reinstatement of several tombs and mural tablets.

In the original estimate for the work liberal allowance

was made for the repairs to the old oak roof and to the stonework of the walls, which were covered with ivy. The roof proved to be in remarkably good condition, and the damage caused by the ivy was less extensive than had been supposed: in consequence the work cost £323, instead of the £400 estimated. With the balance, and some additional funds in hand, it is hoped to provide a small Positive organ.

The Society contributed from the Building Fund, two guineas toward the cost of the repairs.

Elmswell Church, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

Reference was made to this building in the last Report (p. 22). The Church authorities decided to act in accordance with the Society's recommendations, and the first section of the works has now been completed. It embraced repairing and strengthening the south abutment of the chancel arch and inserting a tie-rod across the springing; repairing the cracks in the wall above it, and in the wall over the eastmost bay of the south arcade; and repairing and strengthening the walls of the south aisle and the porch by removing the loose core and binding together the inner and outer faces with concrete. Also putting tie-rods to the modern roofs of the nave and chancel so as to relieve the walls of their thrust; and repairing and repointing the masonry of the belfry openings and the battlemented parapet. The loose masonry at the base of the tower, too, was rebedded and repointed, but the repointing of the whole of the work above, which is urgently needed, has still to be undertaken.

The repairs were carried out under the auspices of the Society by an Architect acting in accordance with its methods.

Eltham Palace, Kent.

It is proposed to carry out some work at Eltham Palace

under the direction of His Majesty's Office of Works and Public Buildings; and, as a result of correspondence with that Department, it has been arranged that a professional representative of the Society shall meet the Inspector of Ancient Monuments there, when the work is taken in hand.

Wolsey's Tower, Esher, Surrey.

With the consent of the owner, Sir Edgar Vincent, the interesting ruin known as Wolsey's Tower was reported upon to him.

The work is clearly of two dates; there is the original building, which certainly seems rather later than Wolsey's time; and a transformation, which may have taken place about 1750, and which included the porch on the east side, and apparently a large staircase (now removed), inside to the right as one enters, as well as other works upstairs, in alterations to doorways and fireplaces, and the covering up of the original brick steps of the fine turret with what looks like Roman cement.

On first seeing the building one would suppose that the windows were inserted as an afterthought, the dripstones are so high above them; but closer inspection of the brick-work dispels this impression.

All that has been done to the building since it came into the possession of the present owner has been most beneficial; notably the works to the roof and the removal of the ivy on the east side. The report stated that it was essential for the security of the fabric that the remaining ivy should also be removed, as it was working its way through cracks in the walls to the inside of the building, and the stems as they grew would certainly force the walls asunder. The owner at once put this recommendation into effect.

The report also described in detail the works of repair

considered necessary; but the owner thought it wiseto defer action until after the removal of the ivy, so that any further work which the Society might then think to be desirable might be included in the operations.

Ancient Houses, Farnham, Surrey.

Some ancient houses at Farnham, including the well-known "Cobbetts Birthplace," are in danger of being pulled down for a street-widening.

The Committee being aware that it was possible to obtain the desired roadway without destroying the houses, addressed to the Farnham Urban District Council a letter pleading for their preservation, and pointing out that their disappearance would be a loss not only to the townsfolk but also to all visitors taking an interest in art and the past ages.

This, and a further letter, were considered by the Council; and finally the correspondence was referred to the Public Works Committee of that body. It is understood that so far no decision has been come to.

Screen, Fritton Church, Norfolk.

The Church at Fritton contains a most valuable and interesting chancel screen, probably erected in the sixteenth century. Unfortunately the lower part only is the original work, the upper having been renewed some years ago. It retains, however, in three pairs of panels on either side of the doorway, remarkably fine figure paintings, in good preservation.

A scheme for the "restoration" of the screen had been drawn up; but the Rector was good enough to allow a professional member of the Society to meet him at the Church for further consideration of the question. As a result of the conference, it is hoped that the scheme of restoration will be abandoned and a revised scheme adopted.

The Old Market Cross, Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Last year, at a public meeting convened by the Mayor of Grantham, it was decided to re-erect the old Market Cross on its original site in the Market Place, then occupied by a modern Obelisk. A Committee was formed to carry out the scheme and at their request the Cross was examined on behalf of the Society and a report sent to them. They adopted the recommendations, and the work of removing the Obelisk and re-erecting the Old Cross has been recently completed. With the exception of six stones of the flight of steps which were missing, the whole of the Cross has been set up again on its original foundations, after having lain for more than two decades in a local builder's yard.

The shaft was found to have split into three pieces, chiefly owing to the corrosion of the iron dowels with which it had been fixed. The old foundation, which was about two feet lower than the street level, was made-up with cement-concrete, and the steps were solidly bedded on it and the core filled in with lime concrete. New steps of white Mansfield stone were used to replace those which were missing. The octagonal base-stone was then set on the top of the steps, and the shaft, with its moulded base and cap, placed in position and strengthened with long gun-metal dowels through the broken parts, run-in with lead. The top of the shaft, which was split into two, was pieced together, and secured with two gun-metal bands. The large capping stones which surmount the shaft were fastened by a gun-metal dowel carried through them down into the upper part of the shaft; and the iron cross, which was broken in several places, was repaired and securely screwed to the top of it. Finally, the moulded cap and base of the shaft, which had been affected by surface-decay, were treated with baryta and lime.

The re-erection was carried out under the personal direction of the Architect, in consultation with the Society.

Hadleigh Castle, Essex.

This well-known ruin is being repaired in accordance with the recommendations contained in a report furnished by the Society to the owners, the Salvation Army.

The Castle, which stands on high ground commanding the marshes, was built in the thirteenth century. The enceinte is an irregular polygon with towers at the angles.

The operations consist chiefly in re-bonding cracks in the masonry, in underpinning, strengthening and repairing the walls and protecting the tops; in removing vegetation and taking away trees which jeopardised their stability; and in levelling the ground surfaces so as to allow the surface water to drain away from the ruins.

The work is being done by the Salvation Army by direct labour; and, from visits made on behalf of the Society during its progress, is known to be progressing satisfactorily.

By this praiseworthy action of the Salvation Army the life of this valuable historical building will be preserved for many years to come.

Hanborough Church, Oxon.

The works of repair, which the last report (p. 27) stated were in progress under the advice of the Society, have now been brought to a conclusion, and the fabric left in a sound condition.

The walls were underpinned at the foundations; the modern plaster removed from the rubble facing and the work repointed with lime-mortar; the masonry of the windows repaired and the old glazing re-leaded, and the iron



HANBOROUGH CHURCH, OXFORDSHIRE
SCREEN OF NORTH CHAPEL, BEFORE RESTORE

saddle-bars and stanchions where built into the stonework fitted with copper ends to prevent corrosion. A surface channel of cement concrete faced with pebbles was formed round about the walls, and connected to drains. The stone floor was relaid on a bed of cement-concrete over a layer of broken stone, and the floors under the seats boarded with English oak set in mastic on the concrete.

The north and south abutments of the chancel arch were underpinned and strengthened. The arch and the wall over it, which owing to the failure of the abutments were in a perilous condition, were repaired and strengthened, and a brick lintel, of the same thickness as the wall, formed over the arch to relieve it; also, the abutments were tied in by a wrought iron rod, passing over the top of the chancel screen, secured to anchor-plates. A photograph is given showing the unstable condition of the masonry before its repair. The interior wall surfaces were relieved of the modern stucco plaster, jointed in imitation of stone, which extended over the masonry of the window jambs and the arches of the nave arcades. Instead, the walls were given a thin coat of plaster, finished flush with the dressed masonry, which was left to view and limewashed. Several old windows and other openings, of interest in explaining the history of the building, were brought to light, including two niches in the east wall of the north chapel, with decorative paintings of the fourteenth century in good preservation.

The beautiful screens across the chancel and the chapels were repaired without interference with their enrichments, as will be seen from the photographs showing the screen before the work and after.

The deal seats throughout were replaced by others in English oak of plain design in harmony with the Church.

A new bell-frame of seasoned English oak was made, and the peal of bells rehung with complete new fittings.

Hardwick Old Hall and Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire.

At the request of His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, these buildings were reported upon by the Society.

The works necessary for the preservation of the ruins of the Old Hall consist chiefly in the repair of the tops of the walls, and the strengthening of the lintels, mullions and transoms of the windows.

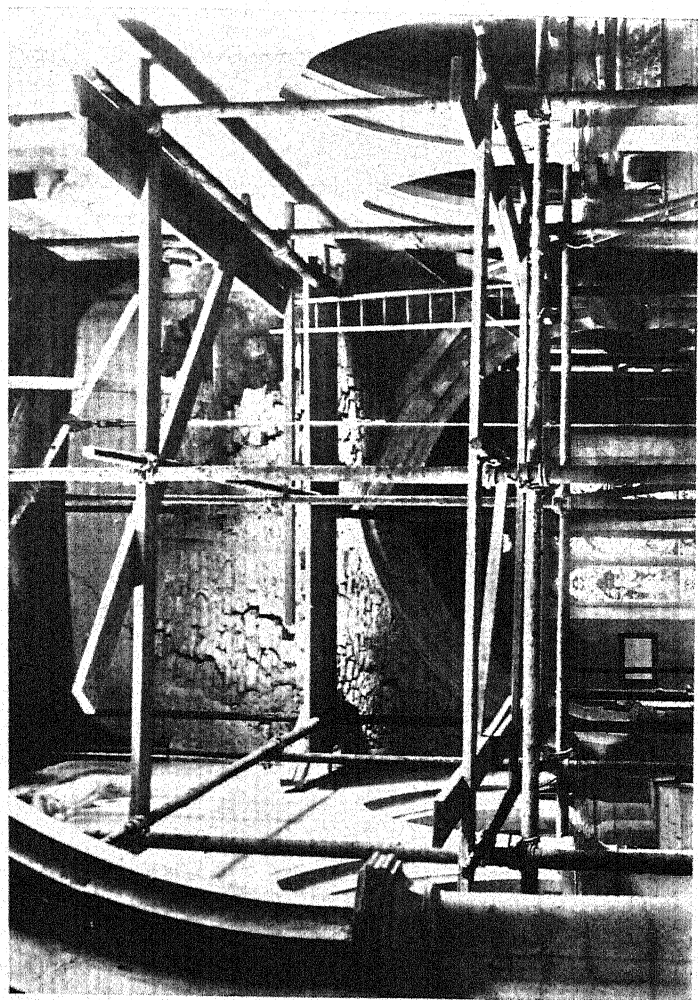
The roofs and the floors have collapsed, with the exception of the landings adjoining the staircase in the western portion of the building.

The south front remains nearly intact, and the western half of the building retains most of the internal walls, including the staircase. Of the eastern half, only the external walls on the south and east are standing. The walls which average about three feet to three feet six inches in thickness, are well built of local stone, and for the most part have rough-cast on the outer face.

The original building was erected probably towards the end of the fifteenth century. About half a century later a wing appears to have been added to the east end, projecting beyond the line of the south front and facing further west. A later addition, on the west of the wing and in line with its front, seems to have been made to provide a main staircase; and at about the same time apparently, the entrance porch on the north front with the two outbuildings and the enclosing wall of the courtyard were built.

In several of the rooms in the western portion of the building, over the fireplace, are scenes in plaster-work or stucco, which are in good preservation. Similar work occurs around the walls of an upper room in the east wing, but exposure to the weather has destroyed the greater part of it.

The various mason's marks on the dressed stonework of the windows and doorways are of interest.



HANBOROUGH CHURCH, OXFORDSHIRE.
CHANCEL ARCH; BEFORE REPAIR



With regard to Hardwick Hall, the works required are for the most part of a structural nature.

His Grace decided to have the works recommended by the Society carried out under its direction ; they are now in progress and it is hoped to give a description of them in the next report.

Ancient Tithe Barn, Highworth, Wiltshire.

This impressive specimen of mediæval architecture is a witness to the excellent results which may be attained by very simple means.

The building is about 115 feet long and 27 feet wide and is divided into seven bays by sturdy roof-principals, buttressed externally, and supported internally by posts twelve inches square, which, standing four feet six inches away from the side walls, divide the interior as it were into a nave and aisles; a small wing in the middle of one side forming a transept.

The walls are of local rubble with worked stone quoins and dressings; and the steep roof is covered with moss-covered stone slates.

From the evidence of the few moulded parts, the barn would appear to be fifteenth-century work. The roof is of oak, ingeniously framed; one of the main gables and that of the "transept" are weather-boarded.

The barn—one end abutting on the road—stands about East and West in the midst of a small farmyard of which the lesser buildings have only recently been pulled down. It is now used as a cow-shed.

It is proposed that it shall be adapted either as a Parish Room or as a Hall for Village uses; and, at the request of the Vicar, the Society has made a survey and prepared a scheme for so effecting the repairs and alterations as to

avoid marring its present appearance. The approximate cost would be £400, and it is hoped that this sum may be forthcoming and the preservation of the barn ensured.

Horringer Church, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk.

This building was surveyed at the Rector's request. It has a chancel, nave, western tower and south porch. There is a modern aisle on the north of the nave, a modern organ-chamber on the north of the chancel, and a modern chapel on the south of the nave abutting against the porch.

With the exception of the tower and the battlemented parapets of the nave, the structure is in good repair.

The tower, which appears to have been built in the fifteenth century, is of flintwork, with ashlar dressings to the angles and openings. The west wall is cracked, at about the middle, from the ground upwards; the walls of the newel staircase on the south side of the tower are also cracked and displaced, and the stone steps much worn.

The belfry contains a peal of six bells hung on an oak frame, standing clear of the walls, and supported on sound oak beams. The head has been cut away at the tenor and fifth bells and so has part of the wall, to allow the bells to swing.

The exteriors of the openings on the four sides of the belfry have been remodelled with semi-circular arches, dated 1703 on the keystone of that on the south; the openings are without mullions or tracery and are filled with louver boards. The battlemented parapet was probably renewed at about the same time; it has large pinnacles at the angles, ornamented with crockets and finials. The tower, including the parapets and pinnacles, is covered with Roman cement, which is flaking off in large patches.

A report was sent to the Rector, in which the works con-

sidered necessary for the repair of the building were fully set forth, and it is now under consideration.

Ilmington Church, Shipston-on-Stour.

A note on this Church appeared in the last report (pp. 27-8). The following works to the tower have recently been carried out, the Architect acting in consultation with the Society personally directing the workmen.

The cracks in the walls above the arch and in the angles of the tower, which menaced the stability of the structure, have been repaired by rebonding together the solid portions on either side of the cracks, working from the inner faces of the walls.

The modern half-brick wall with which the tower arch was filled has been taken down; and the missing steps from the floor of the Church into the tower replaced with new of local stone. The floor of the tower has been relaid with the old stone paving up the middle, supplemented on either side with hand-made bricks obtained from the arch-filling; all set on a bed of cement-concrete over a layer of broken stone.

The modern doorway through the west wall has been walled up to give support to the old window above it; and the inner faces of the walls up to the first floor have been repaired and repointed with lime mortar, and then lime-washed anew.

The font, which had been removed from its original position in front of the tower arch, has been restored to it.

The beams, joists and the old boarding of the first floor of the tower, have been repaired and covered with a new floor of deal, to keep out the draught.

Ancient Church, Kempley, Gloucestershire.

There are two Churches in Kempley; one a beautiful

ancient building; the other erected within recent years. A few months ago the Bishop of Gloucestershire appointed a Commission to enquire into the position of the two, and it has reported in favour of the ancient Church, recommending that it should be repaired and retained as the Parish Church, and a new district assigned to the modern building.

Knowing that the Earl Beauchamp was keenly interested, the Committee addressed to his Lordship a letter offering to place the experience of the Society at the disposal of the authorities. His Lordship recently informed the Society that beyond the appointment of an Architect nothing had been done, and promised to let it know when he had reported. He also stated that no work to the building should be undertaken without the Society's knowledge.

The ancient Church is of very great interest, and it is much to be desired that it should be repaired without delay, without any attempt at "restoration."

Lechlade Church, Gloucestershire.

At the request of the Church authorities this building was visited by a professional member, and his report, which chiefly dealt with the condition of the roofs, was submitted to the Committee.

The chancel roof, which is modern, is flat-pitched and covered with milled lead. It appears to be sound.

The nave and aisles retain their original fifteenth-century flat-pitched roofs, of substantial oak timbers, covered with cast lead.

The nave roof is eighteen feet six inches wide and fifty-seven feet long, and has five bays, with good tie-beams supporting longitudinal bearers into which the rafters are framed. The gutters behind the parapets on each side are of insufficient fall to carry away the rain-water properly, and

it has come in through the joints. On removing a piece of the lead-work, the ends both of the principals and rafters were found to be rotten, and the principals to be without sufficient wall hold. The rafters are supported at their feet on longitudinal bearers on the wall-faces, framed into the tie-beams and the backs of these bearers have rotted away. The tie-beams themselves are cracked in several places, and are bound together with iron.

The cast-lead on this roof, which is dated 1656, is very worn and patched.

The north and south aisles, and the chapels at the east end, also retain their fifteenth-century roofs, covered with cast lead; the condition of the gutters and ends of the timbers is like that of the nave.

The roof over the vestry on the north side of the chancel is covered with cast lead dated 1720. With the exception of the gutter behind the parapet, it is in fair repair.

The lead heads and down-pipes to the nave, dated 1651, need attention.

The battlemented parapets are loose: the top stones are held together with iron cramps on the surface. The ashlar of the clerestory walls needs repointing, and the jambs and mullions of the windows are cracked by the corrosion of the iron saddle-bars, which are outside the glazing.

The tower contains a peal of five heavy bells hung on an old oak frame, which is in contact with the walls. Owing to this, the vibration set up by ringing is transmitted directly into the masonry, and has shaken and cracked the parapet; the pinnacles too, which have iron cramps on the surface, appear to be insecure.

The report concluded with a specification of the works of repair considered necessary. The Committee was in entire accord with the recommendations; and it is reassuring to know that the works are shortly to be taken in hand.

St. Margaret's Church Tower, Leicester.

Following a correspondence with the Church Authorities as to the proposed execution of some works of repair, a representative of the Society met the Architect at the building.

The Church must at one time have been of great beauty, but is now sadly marred by drastic "restoration," which, however, has stopped short of the tower. Here, however, the stonework is in urgent need of attention owing to surface decay, which, if not arrested by proper treatment, will before long result in the total loss of the interest still attaching to this part of the fabric.

So far, the Committee is able to report that at all events a project to rehang the bells to an iron bell-frame has been set aside, and the existing oak frame is to be repaired and retained.

Ancient Building, Limpsfield, Surrey.

As it learnt that an ancient half-timbered house at Limpsfield was to be demolished to make room for a Post Office, the Committee addressed to the Postmaster General a letter expressing an earnest hope that the project might be reconsidered, since it had been affirmed that the building could be adapted so as to provide the accommodation, without loss to its interest.

In reply, the Committee was informed that the site had been purchased by the Postmaster General for a new Post Office, and the suggestion that the building should be altered had been carefully considered and found to be impracticable. Not only was it faulty in itself, but also insanitary; and, owing to the saturated state of the sub-soil, a menace to the health of the adjoining occupiers.

Although the Committee could not further pursue the

question, it certainly suggests itself strongly that to make the building sanitary and to remove the contaminated earth, at least could present no insuperable difficulty.

The Post Office has recently been responsible, either directly or indirectly, for the destruction of more than one picturesque ancient building; and it is hoped that means may be found to bring influence to bear so that such losses may be prevented.

London. Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

Considerable alarm was felt at rumours of proposed alterations to this well-known building—one of the most complete and least changed of the interiors by Sir Christopher Wren.

The Committee communicated with the authorities upon the subject, and the Chaplain very kindly attended one of its meetings and talked the matter over in a friendly way. He finally promised to allow the Society to see the plans for any alterations, before they were carried into effect.

The Chapel has been specially visited by more than one member of the Committee, and it is felt that the utmost care will be needed if its present charming appearance is not to be marred.

*London. Sir Robert Geffery's Almshouses,
Kingsland Road, Shoreditch.*

In the last report (p. 30) it was stated that the London County Council was moving with the object of acquiring the site of these Almshouses as an open space; and the hope was expressed that in the event of the Council being successful, these fine old buildings would be retained, and turned to some useful purpose.

The Committee has great satisfaction in reporting that

the sum required for the property, £24,000, was forthcoming, the greater part being provided by the London County Council and the Shoreditch Borough Council, £2,000, however, being raised by public subscription. The purchase has been effected with a view to the preservation of the Almshouses and the use of the gardens as an open space, much needed in this part of London.

The Butter Cross, Ludlow, Shropshire.

The Committee heard that it was proposed to convert the Butter Cross,—which is probably eighteenth-century,—into a fire-station; and feared that the character of the building might be damaged. A professional member, therefore, by the courtesy of the Borough Surveyor, inspected the plans for the conversion, and was able to report that, beyond some glazing-in of the open arcading, the character would be unaltered.

Since then, the Borough Surveyor has so contrived the planning that the eighteenth-century work will remain untouched; the fire-engine being housed in a later addition on the west, and an existing archway in it enlarged, on lines consistent with the rest of the building.

Humphrey Cheetham's Hospital, Manchester.

This valuable building was visited on behalf of the Society—the Governors having accepted an offer of a report upon its condition—and a description of the works of preservation considered necessary was sent.

The Committee has recently heard from the Governors that they have appointed a local Architect; and, in reply to an enquiry, they have stated that, so far, he has not had an opportunity of examining the Society's report.

It is to be hoped that the recommendations may be acted

upon, and no "restoration" attempted, for the building has already suffered much from ill-advised efforts to that end.

Mold Church, Flintshire.

The Architects were good enough to receive a professional member of the Society at the building, and to explain their proposals for dealing with it.

The Church has a nave with north and south aisles and north porch, all of late Perpendicular character; a western tower of eighteenth century Gothic; and an apsidal chancel of Sir Gilbert Scott's work. With the exception of the parapets and one or two windows, the Perpendicular work has not been marred by "restoration." The internal arcading of the nave has richly carved and foliated panel work above the arches; the aisle windows are large, and have some remains of old glass, but the clerestory is stunted and the present windows are quatrefoils of cast iron. On the north aisle the ancient carved roof remains; that of the south aisle, probably eighteenth century, is of oak, plain but impressive by its massiveness and breadth of character. Its construction is somewhat uncommon, the purlins being tenoned into intermediate principals and the boarding running parallel with the rafters, which are close set, to take the edges of the boards. Iron brackets, of apparently later date than the roof, connect the main trusses with the Perpendicular wall-shafts. The nave roof, the oak seating and the tiling in the chancel are Sir Gilbert Scott's work: the paving of the rest of the Church is the original stone flagging. All roofs other than the roof of the porch are covered with lead, which except on the South aisle is in good condition.

The Architects' proposals for the repair of the roofs, the formation of a concrete channel round the walls, the repair

of the parapets—replacing iron dowels by others of slate or copper—are such as meet with the cordial approval of the Society. The treatment of the external stonework, which is suffering from surface decay, is, however, more likely to lead to difference of opinion, although the Architects listened courteously to the suggestions made by the Society's representative, and promised to consider them.

It is hoped that they may eventually decide to adopt the method advocated—making good the deficient stonework with tiles and mortar, and protecting the surface where superficially decayed by applying baryta-water, and a final coat of lime toned with colour.

Old Priest's House, Muchelny, Somerset.

A short description of this fourteenth-century building, which is of exceptional value in being unique of its kind, was given in the report for 1908 (p. 34).

The Incumbent being alive to its worth and to the need for its preservation, offered the house and garden to the National trust for £200. The Committee considered it so necessary that the building should become National property, that it gave to the Trust a guarantee to bear the cost of putting it into repair; and eventually the purchase was completed.

The Committee's action was warmly supported by the members of the Society, and funds to the amount of the approximate estimate of the cost of the works at that time necessary were quickly forthcoming.

The repairs have just been completed. The following is a fuller description of the house, and an account of what has been done.

The Old Vicarage House, or as it is called locally The Old Priest's House, stands opposite to the Church and close

to the remains of the Abbey of Muchelny. It is a well-preserved and typical example of the smaller house of the late fifteenth century. The details of some of the windows are the same as those in the Abbots House near by. The walling is of Pisbury stone roughly chopped or hammered, and Ham-Hill stone which is a mellow yellow colour; the combination gives a very interesting texture.

The plan is simple. On the ground floor are three rooms. The main entrance is on the south through a Gothic doorway with an oak door—contemporary with the house—which has a most curious and interesting wrought-iron handle. This door opens into a passage leading straight through to a similar door on the north. To the west of the passage is a room, and there is another room over it. The central room is entered from the passage by a solid oak doorway—probably a hundred years older than the house—removed from some older building. This room was originally open up to the roof, and the present ceiling and floor of the room above cut across the fine fifteenth-century north and south windows. The original fire-place of Ham-Hill stone is partly built up, most likely on account of the broken lintel.

The east room is entered from the central room, and has a screened-off staircase, leading to the rooms in the roof. The fireplace has been built up long ago, and the flue and chimney have gone. The ceiling is of oak, panelled and moulded.

In the description of this House by the Rev. Mr. Baker in Muchelny Church, the staircases are said to have been outside "as at the Abbey Mill at Thomey, still existing." In excavating for a concrete foundation to receive the thrust of the buttress placed on the north side, some slight remains of a staircase were discovered.

About two years ago the outer shell of the north wall fell, partly owing to thrust from the roof and partly to exposure to

weather arising from the faulty condition of the thatch : fortunately the large four-light window in the central room remained intact, and the stones of the doorway were not much injured ; the small four-light window, above, however, originally of one stone, was broken into twenty-four pieces. This wall has been rebuilt on a sound foundation of cement-concrete, with plenty of bonders right through the inner shell. The four-light window has been mended with copper dowels and lime mortar. There was a weak piece of walling at the east end of the north wall where the entrance to the outside staircase had been walled-up. A tile lintel has been built through the thickness of the walling, and a single stone buttress under this on a foundation of cement-concrete now takes any thrust there may be.

The four-light cusped window of one stone in the gable of the east wall was broken into four pieces by the weight of walling above it, and by the rusting of the iron saddle-bars, and leaned outward dangerously. It has been mended, and a tile lintel formed to relieve it from the weight above.

The chimneys, which are of brick, have been rebuilt. The outside face of the walls has been overhauled ; the joints freed from loose mortar and pointed with a flush joint ; and the copings rebbed.

The boundary wall is generally in good condition ; the gate has been repaired.

At the back of the building a paving has been formed to carry away the water which falls from the roof ; and the well head has been repaired.

Over the central room there is a fine oak roof. Generally it was sound, but one purlin had to be replaced by a new one of oak ; rafters repaired ; and about twenty-five feet of wall plate provided ; also it was found necessary to fix an iron tie-bar between the feet of the principals over the central room.

The roof over the east room was repaired with fir purlins and rafters about forty years ago. The work had been done roughly, but it was decided that it would last for many years. The thatch on the north side has been renewed and a new ridging put to the south side.

The leaded lights have been repaired, and missing quarries replaced with crown glass.

The plastering generally has been mended, and the inside wall surfaces given two coats of limewash.

In the course of the operations it became apparent that rather more work would be needed than that covered by the approximate estimate, made three years ago, in 1908, and the final cost is £83 18s. 3d. Thus there is a sum of £17 11s. 9d. in excess of the funds to be met. The Committee places the facts before the members confiding that, in view of the great merits of this case, the small amount required to balance the expenses will be met by further subscriptions.

Oakham Castle, Rutland.

The Castle, which is of exceptional interest, adjoins the Market Place. The buildings consist of the Hall, forty-three feet wide and sixty-five feet long, surrounded by the old enclosing wall, an irregular circle.

The Hall, of the twelfth century, is divided lengthways by two arcades, each of four bays of semi-circular arches enriched with dog-tooth ornament, which spring from carved corbels in the end walls and are carried by round piers with finely carved caps and moulded bases.

The principal doorway is now in the middle of the south aisle wall, but originally it was close to the east end. On either side of it are two two-light windows, with pointed arches, enriched with dog-tooth ornament and carved tympanums.

At about the middle of the north wall is a doorway leading to a modern addition ; and on the west of it are two windows like those in the south wall. In the west wall is a roughly-formed doorway, now built up. The east wall has two built-up doorways with segmental heads, and over them a seventeenth century window. High up in the gable is an original two-light window with a pointed arch.

The body of the hall is covered with a steep-pitched roof of modern construction supported by three principals, one over each arcade pier, apparently of the seventeenth century. Each principal has a good tie-beam, with jack-legs and struts resting on corbels. The struts of the middle principal are cut away—to allow of the fixing of a modern gas pendant! The roof is covered with Colley-Weston stone slates, and ceiled with plaster between the oak rafters. The roofs of the aisles are similar to the main roof, but flatter. On them are modern dormers, and the aisle window openings are "sashed;" both very detrimental to the appearance of the buildings.

The gable ends retain their old stone weatherings, surmounted by finials of carved beasts.

The walls are of local stone, faced with rubble and plastered inside. The doorways, windows, and angles, have ashlar dressings of Barnack stone.

The Hall is used as a County Court, and is fitted up for criminal cases at one end and civil cases at the other.

The Castle generally is in sound condition, but some important works of repair are necessary. These were fully set forth in a report sent to a gentleman interested in the welfare of the building, at whose request it was surveyed by the Society.

There is a project to carry out some works to the Castle as a memorial to the late Mr. Finch—who for many years represented Rutland in Parliament—and the Society's

correspondent has undertaken to lay the report before the Memorial Committee.

A suggestion has been made for the introduction of a stained-glass window; but this cannot be supported by the Society; for, no matter how good, such a window would be out of harmony with a building of this character.

Ockham Church Tower, Surrey.

This Tower was visited and reported upon. It stands at the west end of the Church and was probably erected in the fourteenth century. The walls, which at the ground level are four feet nine inches thick, are of flintwork, with clunch dressings to the angles and openings, and the flint facing outside is covered with modern plaster. The walling seems to be sound, except for some slight cracks in the upper part of the belfry stage and the parapets. The clunch dressings however are weather-worn, and in places decayed; and the modern plaster is crumbling away.

The doorway to the nave, and that in the west wall, seem to have been inserted late in the fifteenth century, but the window over the latter is evidently contemporary with the tower. There is a projecting turret staircase on the south-east angle, the stone steps of which are much worn. The belfry windows were perhaps inserted in the fifteenth century.

The roof-timbers are sound, but the tiles are loose and some are displaced. The lead guttering behind the parapets is beyond repair.

The belfry contains a peal of five bells hung on an oak frame, originally intended for three. The peal was rehung about sixteen years ago. The frame is out of repair and racks considerably during ringing, and the bearings appear to be worn. The beams on which the frame rests are sound.

The report recommended various works of repair, and they are now in progress. The work is not being carried out under the direction of the Society, but has been inspected on its behalf, and it is apparent that there should be no difficulty in bringing it to a satisfactory conclusion.

Oddington Old Church ; Moreton-in-Marsh.

At the request of the Rector, the Society made a survey of this Church, which is chiefly of fourteenth century work and has a chancel, nave, south aisle, a tower situated at the east end of the aisle, and a porch near the west end. Between the nave and aisle, westward of the tower, is an arcade of two bays with pointed arches; and the north and west walls of the tower have pointed archways into the nave and aisle; that to the aisle is built up, doubtless for strength, and the filling is pierced with a small round-headed opening.

Against the south wall of the chancel is a modern vestry with a doorway opening on to the Sanctuary steps.

The chancel walls are of stone, outside faced with ashlar, and inside coated with modern plaster. They appear to be sound. The roof, which is modern, is constructed of varnished deal, and covered with Stonefield slates, which are in fairly good repair. The floor is paved with machine-made tiles, red and blue: and the seats are of deal. The altar and rails which are of oak, are ancient and of interest.

The north abutment of the chancel arch has yielded to the thrust and is leaning outward; against it there is a modern buttress which seems to have stayed the movement.

Over the chancel-arch there is a painted Royal Arms, inscribed W.R., 1835. Unfortunately the wall has cracked, owing to the failure of the abutment.

The north and west walls of the nave are of stone outside, faced with rubble inside, and plastered. In the north wall,

near the east end, there is a modern doorway ; above it, a large three-light sash window ; and, close to the chancel arch, another window, smaller, all evidently formed about a hundred years ago. These walls appear to be sound. The nave arcade, however, has been seriously disturbed by a settlement of the pier supporting the two arches of the nave arcade on the south side. It leans toward the north, and the arches and the wall are in an unstable condition. Over the arch into the tower, too, the wall is badly cracked and disturbed.

The nave roof is fifteenth century. It is flat-pitched, is constructed of oak, and is covered with cast lead. It is ceiled with plaster on the underside of the rafters and the main timbers, exposed to view, are whitewashed. The east-most principal is broken and its north end is supported on a corbel. At the west end of the nave there is a choir gallery, and the end bay of the roof over it is ceiled with a plaster vault. The west wall has a large three-light fifteenth-century window and a doorway which has been built up breast-high, and converted into a window.

In the south aisle wall, which appears to be sound, there is a late Norman doorway in about the middle of the length, and on either side of it a three-light fifteenth-century window. The aisle roof is ceiled with a flat plaster vault ; outside it is steep pitched and covered with Stonefield slates.

The porch, probably fourteenth century, has also a steep, Stonefield slated roof. The side walls have been thrust outwards by an old failure in the outer archway.

The two lower stages of the tower are probably fourteenth century ; that of the belfry, a century later. The stone walls are about four feet thick, and are faced with ashlar outside and plastered inside. The belfry has four openings, with traceried heads in good condition. It contains a peal of five bells, hung on an old oak frame, which originally

stood clear of the walls. Now, however, the head is tightly wedged against them, no doubt as an expedient to remedy shakiness in the joints of the frame, but the result has been disastrous. The whole of the vibration set up in ringing the bells, transmitted through the wedges directly into the walls, has caused large cracks in the masonry from the parapet downwards, and displacement of the stones of the parapet.

The Church is thickly overgrown with ivy, which is doing harm to the facing at the ground level where the roots have undermined the walls.

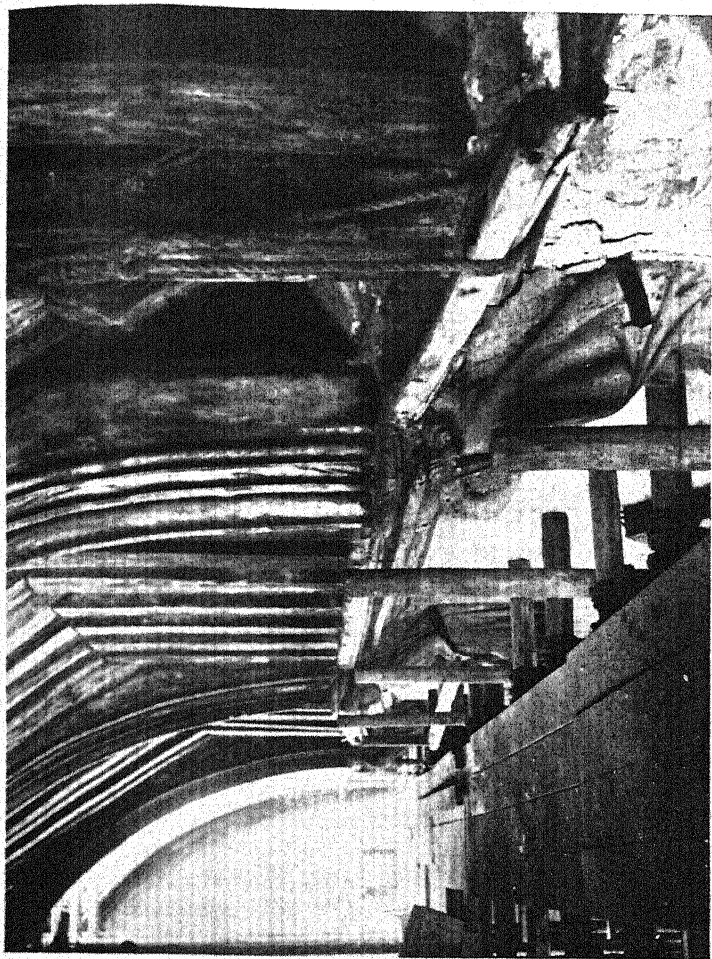
The plastering inside the building, with the exception of that in the chancel, is old, and through the coats of white-wash with which it is covered can be seen indications of wall paintings.

The seating of deal is about a hundred years old. The oak Pulpit is Elizabethan, and is very interesting. It stands against the north wall of the nave and has a sounding board above it. For the old reading desk and clerk's desk modern work in deal has been substituted.

A detailed report describing the works of repair required for the preservation of the Church was sent to the Rector; and it is understood that he hopes that before long a section of the work may be taken in hand.

Penshurst Place, Kent.

In 1908 it came to the notice of the Committee that there was a proposal to do some work to the fine fourteenth-century roof of the Baron's Hall, Penshurst Place; and a letter offering to give advice was addressed to the owner, Lord L'Isle & Dudley. The offer was accepted, and the works recommended have recently been carried into effect under the direction of an Architect, his Lordship's agent supervising the workmen.



PENSHURST PLACE, KENT.
ROOF OF BARONS HALL; DURING REPAIR

The roof, which is in four bays, is constructed with massive timbers of oak. It is about sixty-four feet long, and has a span of thirty-eight feet nine inches. Its condition was precarious, as the weather, soaking through the defective lead gutter behind the parapets, had rotted the wall-plates on which the feet of the principals and rafters rested, and in consequence the roof had gradually sunk and spread outwards, tearing open the joints between principals, collar-beams and curved ribs. Further, owing to the undue weight brought to bear by the studding pieces under the rafters, the main cornice, which projects about eighteen inches beyond the wall-face, and on the edge of which the studding-pieces rest, had broken in several places, and had moved out of its proper position.

The roof was repaired as it stood, working from scaffolding inside the Hall. First, as a precaution against further spreading, the feet of the principals were coupled together by iron chains. Then the roof-covering, which is of Horsham stone slates for about half the height and of hand-made tiles for the remainder, was stripped, and the timbers protected with tarpaulins. Next, the principals were brought back to their proper positions, by raising them with screw-jacks placed on top of the walls; and then passing new wall-plates of seasoned English oak under their feet which afterwards were securely fixed to them.

The collar-beams and ribs, after being readjusted to the principals, were secured with steel bolts. Where decayed, the ends of the principals and rafters were repaired by scarfing-on to the sound wood new pieces of seasoned English oak, and securing them with steel bolts. The ends of the purlins, where framed into the principals, were then strengthened by being bolted up to steel plates, passing across the back of the principal. The main cornice was carefully repaired, and strengthened where necessary, by

bolting stiffening-pieces of oak to the back; and the whole firmly bolted to the rafters and wall plates. The carved figures below the ribs were secured at the foot by screwing to their backs steel plates, the ends of which were built into the wall, and fixed at the top by a steel bolt passing through the breast into the wall plate. Defective places in the roof timbers generally were repaired with English oak, and finally the old stone slates and tiles were rehung on oak battens with specially made copper pins, the lead of the gutters being first recast on the site and relaid with good falls to the outlets. Other works carried out were, repairing and repointing the masonry of the parapets, gables, and windows; reglazing; repairing the plaster to the window jambs, brushing down that on the walls, and treating the whole with two coats of toned limewash.

On their completion the works were inspected by a professional member of the Committee, and a letter was sent to Lord de L'Isle and Dudley tendering him the gratitude of the Society for his action in preserving a building of such National value.

Plymtree Church, Cullompton, Devon.

This church was reported upon in 1904, and the chief works then recommended have now been carried out, in accordance with the Society's usual method of supervision.

The church has a late perpendicular western tower; a nave about forty-six feet long, with a south aisle and south porch; a chancel about twenty feet long, with a south aisle, in continuation of that of the nave, of about half the length.

The work is generally of the fifteenth century, although the windows on the north of the nave extend into the sixteenth century.

The foundations of the north side of the nave were found to be of larger rough stones laid in clay, into which the surface

PERNISI PLANT. KENN
The plant is a small, bushy shrub, growing in the open, sandy soil of the coastal plain. It is a common plant in the area, and is used for various purposes, including as a source of fuel and as a natural fence.



water had soaked, and softening it, had undermined the wall to such an extent that at the top, near the middle, it inclined outwards about a foot. This was dealt with by underpinning the wall and buttresses on a wide bed of cement-concrete, resting on the solid ground; and repairing and repointing the faces. In the course of the operations at the east end of the wall, the remains of a circular stone staircase leading to the rood-loft were discovered. The bottom steps were missing; but four of those at the top remained, as well as the doorway through the wall giving access to the loft.

A surface channel of hand-made bricks on a bed of cement-concrete was formed around the building, and connected to drains of socketted pipes, for the removal of the rain-water from the surface and roofs.

The masonry of the windows, more particularly the jambs and mullions, was repaired and strengthened.

The foundations of the chancel walls were sound; but, in the facing below the ground, the wet had caused the mortar to decay; and it had to be pointed with cement mortar.

The east wall and part of the south wall of the south aisle were in as bad a condition as the north wall of the nave, and so were underpinned, and some cracks in them repaired.

The roofs, which are slated, were overhauled; and the lead gutter between the nave and aisle recast and relaid. The modern stone cross on the east gable, which was broken into several pieces, was repaired and refixed.

The floors throughout the building, with the exception of those of the tower and the porch, were relaid on a bed of cement-concrete with a layer of broken stone underneath. The old stone paving in the passages was re-used; but the boarded floors under the seats, which rested on the clay soil, were completely rotten, and had to be replaced by oak boarding, set in mastic on a layer of coke-breeze concrete into which it was nailed.

The beautiful fifteenth-century seats were carefully mended and refixed on new oak sills, where the old had decayed.

The rood-screen is one of the most beautiful in Devonshire. It had gradually sunk. As its oak sill decayed, it was lifted and a new sill of English oak on a concrete foundation, inserted under it, on which, when it was then lowered, it rested in its original place. A few fragments of the old sill which remained were let into the new, in their relative positions.

The plaster on the walls and roof vaults was repaired and limewashed; and some alterations made to the churchyard wall to enlarge the churchyard on the north side.

Puddletown Church, Dorset.

It is deeply to be regretted that, notwithstanding the endeavours of the Society and of others interested, the scheme for the enlargement of the chancel, described in the last report (pp. 38-39), has been carried into effect.

The following extract from a letter by a member of the Society indicates the devastation due to the operations:

"In passing Puddletown Church about ten days ago I saw that the chancel [*i.e.*, the east wall] had been pulled down, also the east wall of the north aisle; the adjoining arch, being endangered by these demolitions, was propped up. Gravestones had been removed from the Churchyard, an extensive clearing made and foundations dug; and window-tracery and other Gothic details lay scattered about the Churchyard."

October 8th, 1910.

Ranworth Church, Norfolk.

The chancel of this Church has recently been repaired in consultation with the Society.

The walls were found to be extensively cracked; partly

owing to foundation settlement, and partly to thrust from the roof, which was without cross ties.

On the erection of the scaffolding, it was discovered that the fifteenth-century roof, which for many years had been covered with a lath-and-plaster ceiling, still remained intact, and considering the state of the old thatch, in remarkably good preservation.

The wall cracks were dealt with in the Society's usual method, by cutting out the loose walling on either side and rebonding together the solid work. On the removal of the brick filling from the Sedilia on the south of the sanctuary it was seen that none of its stonework remained, only the plain recess in which it had been built. In the north wall, directly opposite, another recess was found, which proved to be that of the Easter Sepulchre; but the shelf and a suggestion of the form of a canopy in the plastering round the head, were all that remained. Both recesses had the plastering repaired but otherwise were left. The stonework of the two windows in the south wall, where fractured and forced out of position by the rusting of the iron bars, was repaired; and the bars fitted with copper ends, where built into the stone. The east window and the westmost window in the north wall, which were blocked up with brickwork, have been opened out, and the missing parts of the mullions and tracery renewed so as to strengthen the work. Much of the old crown glass still remained, and it was taken out, releaded and refixed.

The old roof timbers were repaired and strengthened with seasoned English oak; the feet of the principals confined from spreading with wrought-iron tie-rods; and the roof re-thatched with an eighteen-inch layer of specially selected Norfolk reeds; the underside, where exposed to view between the rafters, worked in a basket pattern.

A surface-channel, of hand-made bricks on a cement-

concrete bed, was formed round the walls, and connected to drains to carry away the rain-water from the roof and surface. The flooring of old hand-made tiles was carefully relaid on a bed of cement-concrete, with a layer of broken brick under it; the old plastering was repaired and given three coats of toned limewash; the "Miserere" seats on the east of the chancel mended; new choir stalls of English oak provided to the north and south sides, continuing from the "Miserere" stalls; and the Elizabethan altar-rails, which in later days had been painted and varnished, cleaned and repaired.

In addition to these works in the chancel; a surface channel faced with rough flints bedded in cement mortar was formed round the nave; and the flint facing of the walls immediately above it, repaired and repointed.

Ravensthorpe Church, Northampton.

This Church has lately been repaired in accordance with the Society's advice and under its supervision.

The stone facing of the north and south aisles and tower, where loose and decayed, has been repaired and repointed. The timbers of the tower roof have been generally overhauled; several rotted by the wet renewed with English oak; and the lead covering recast and relaid on new deal boarding. The battlemented parapet, which was insecure, has been repaired and the coping reset; the old flagstaff made sound and fixed to pieces of oak built into the south-west angle of the tower; and the bell-frame strengthened and held down to the oak bearing beams with long bolts.

Runwell Church, Essex.

This building was visited on behalf of the Society as long ago as 1884. At that date it had suffered much from

"restoration," but a special note was made of an oak screen between the south nave-aisle and the south chancel-aisle.

In 1906 the Society heard that the Church was to be further "restored," and, in reply to enquiry, the Rector was good enough to state that the work proposed comprised the general restoration of the fabric, but he added that every care would be taken in carrying out the work not to destroy anything of beauty or interest.

In April, 1908, a member of the Committee visited the Church, and he reported that he could not get into the building as photographs were being taken. He, however, met the Rector who assured him that the work had been most carefully done. In reply to a question as to what was to happen to parts of an ancient screen which were deposited in the porch he said he did not know, but, "they had a much handsomer one in the Church now!"

At the latter part of 1910, a professional member of the Society was in Essex and he took the opportunity of visiting the Church. He reported that a most unsuitable chancel screen, of foreign oak, had taken the place of the ancient fifteenth-century screen, which had been deposited in the south porch. He further informed the Society that the stone drain of an early piscina was also in the porch, and that a new one had been fixed in the chancel.

Tudor House and Norman House, Southampton.

The members of the Town Council of Southampton are to be commended for their public-spirited action in acquiring for the Corporation "Tudor House" and "King John's House" (or "Norman House"), which were in private ownership. By this step they have secured for the enjoyment of posterity a no mean portion of the township's rich heritage of venerable and historical buildings.

For his services in bringing about so satisfactory a result, special thanks are due to the Society's local representative.

As an earnest of its goodwill, the Committee has placed at the disposal of the Corporation, free of cost, the experience of the Society in dealing with the preservation of ancient buildings.

Porter's Grange, Southend-on-sea, Essex.

There is a danger of this interesting house, the only remaining ancient building in Southend, being destroyed. A few gentlemen interested in its preservation obtained an option to purchase the property, in the expectation that the Town Council would decide to acquire it. Unfortunately that body resolved, by a small majority, not to do so. The Committee has addressed letters to the public press in the hope that public opinion may be aroused sufficiently to induce the Corporation to reconsider its course of action.

The house is as sound structurally as it was on the day when it was built ; it is simply and directly planned, and with one or two small alterations would be well adapted for a museum.

Stoke St. Milburgh Church, Shropshire.

A professional member of the Society was called in to advise as to the treatment of this building, and he submitted his report to the Committee.

The Church has a nave, chancel, western tower, and a timber porch at the south-east. The nave and chancel are of the earlier part of the twelfth century and the lower part of the tower of the latter end of it. The upper part of the tower and some of the windows are of the fourteenth century, but the nave windows on the north, and the east windows in the chancel are modern imitative work.

The Committen concurred in the report, its recommendations are now being carried out, and a description of the works will be given next year.

Todwick Church, Yorkshire.

In the report for 1905 (pp. 60-1) it was stated that, as the result of a visit on behalf of the Society a scheme of "restoration" had been considerably modified.

One of the Society's recommendations was that the old plaster on the walls should be repaired and retained. About a year ago, the Rector informed the Committee that the walls had become disfigured by patches of blackish mould, and were damp. Upon inspection, it was found that when the church was repaired the old plaster was colour-washed with light-buff "Duresco." This was much discoloured, and in places quite black; also, here and there, a white efflorescence had appeared, and in such places the plaster showed signs of damp and decay. The general condition of the plaster was sound, and it was very hard and smooth on the surface. There was no dampness in the walls and the conditions complained of were traced to the presence of old colourwash which had not been cleaned off before the "Duresco" was applied.

A report to the Rector explained how the discolouration could be rectified and the plaster repaired, and described other slight works necessary for the ventilation of the roofs, preservation of stonework, etc. It is understood that the authorities decided to act in accordance with the recommendations, but as the works were not carried out under the supervision of the Society it cannot accept any responsibility for them, since the success of such operations is largely dependent on proper directions being given to the workmen individually as occasion arises.

Walpole St. Peter's Church, Norfolk.

A description of some works which had been affected at this church appeared in the last report (pp. 75-9). The following further repairs were recently carried out in accordance with the Society's methods.

The fifteenth century roof of the north aisle was dealt with without taking it down, the timbers being repaired from a scaffolding erected underneath; and the old lead was recast on the site and relaid on new deal boarding over the old oak boarding. The tower roof was repaired similarly; and the old clock overhauled and left in good order.

The old stone paving of the nave and north aisle was taken up and relaid on a bed of cement-concrete over a layer of broken brick; the old pews and Jacobean seats mended and refixed, those which stood at the back of the nave being brought forward and the old pews placed behind them; and the deal floors under the seats replaced with new floors of English oak boarding, set in mastic on a bed of coke-breeze concrete, to which the boards were nailed.

*The Beauchamp Chapel, St. Mary's Church,
Warwick.*

In connection with the Chapel there is a bequest bringing in £40 a year, which is expended at the discretion of two Trustees; and the Vicar, feeling that the fabric was not being dealt with as it should, appealed to the Society for expert advice.

The work in recent years appears to have been confined to the external surfaces of the walls, and the old masonry, of fine-grained sandstone, is bit by bit being renewed with Hollington stone. Lately, the south buttress at the east end, and parts of the tracery in the east window were thus dealt with. Judging from the condition of the other

buttresses, there was no occasion for this drastic action; the decay does not extend below the surface and the masonry could have been repaired, and then treated to arrest the decay. Further, apart from any question of appearance the new work to the east buttress is not successful structurally, as it has settled away from the body of the buttress, breaking the beds and joints.

Generally the immediate surface only of the facing of the Chapel is affected, and the Society in a report pointed out how the building could be repaired without any appreciable loss of interest.

In thanking the Committee, the Vicar stated that the recommendations had justified his protest to the Trustees, and his plea that no work to the Chapel should be undertaken without the advice of a competent Architect.

Watford Church, Rugby.

A description of this fine building of the fourteenth century was given in the last report (pp. 53-6).

The Church authorities decided to adopt the Society's recommendations; and, during the past year, the following works have been carried out under personal direction of the Architect.

The north abutment of the chancel arch has been repaired, and stayed up by constructing against the modern brick wall which encloses the Chapel, a brick arch, springing from the back of the abutment and spanning the Chapel, and continuing it up to the roof level with brickwork. At completion, both arch and wall were plastered on the Chapel side. The cracks in the wall over the Chancel arch have been dealt with by rebonding together the solid masonry; and the dislocation of the arch stones, by cleaning out the joints and, after lifting the stones into their proper places, regrouting

them solidly. The pier common to the two arches in the north wall of the chancel has been repaired and strengthened from its foundation; the arches relieved of the weight of the superstructure by the construction of a brick lintel in the thickness of the wall, immediately above them; and the cracks in the wall over the east window mended and the defective joints of the arch-stones cleaned out and grouted.

Outside the building, the rubble facing of the north and south aisles has been repaired and repointed with lime mortar; the loose stones at the foundation rebbed; and a surface channel of concrete, faced with hand-made bricks, constructed at the foot of the wall of the north aisles, and drains laid round the building to carry away the roof and surface water. Also, the masonry of the windows after being repaired has been treated with baryta and lime to arrest the decay; and the battlemented parapet of the tower repaired and repointed.

Removal of the lead from the tower roof disclosed considerable decay of the timbers. They were repaired with English oak, and the lead recast on the site, and relaid on new deal boarding. The chancel roof has been dealt with similarly; and the old plaster on the north chapel walls treated with two coats of toned limewash.

The chief works still to be done are, repointing the outside of the tower; rehangng the bells on a new bell-frame of seasoned English oak, and the cleaning and limewashing of the interior of the building.

Westhorpe Church, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

This Church was reported upon by the Society in 1906, but it was not until 1910 that it was possible to carry out the first section of the works requisite for its preservation, embracing the repair of the roofs of the nave, north and

south aisles and south porch ; the repair of the cracks in the walls, and the repair and limewashing of the interior plaster.

The roofs, which are exceptionally interesting, were constructed in the fourteenth century. They are of oak, and the members are robust and richly moulded. For some years the weather had been soaking in through the defective lead covering, and the main timbers were so rotten that it was wonderful that they held up. The defective parts have been cut out, and replaced by new of seasoned English oak scarfed and bolted to the sound work, all being done without unframing the main members. The leadwork of the main roofs has been recast on the site and relaid on new boarding of deal fixed on the old oak boards; but the funds have not been sufficient for this to be done to the chapel and tower roofs and for the present the leadwork there has only been patched up.

These works, which were carried out under the personal direction of the Architect in consultation with the Society, have saved the building from destruction; but much remains to be done before it can be used for Divine Service. The floor must be relaid, the seats repaired and fixed, and the old leaded glazing mended. Around the building a surface drain must be formed to carry the rain-water away from the walls to prevent its damaging the foundations. The bell-frame too must be repaired and strengthened and the bells rehung; at present they cannot be used. Also a Gurney stove must be provided to warm the building.

Church of St. Mary, Whaplode, Lincolnshire.

The whole of the work mentioned in the last report (pp. 57-9) as still to be done has now been completed under the auspices of the Society.

The leaded glazing of the windows was carefully repaired, and additional casements provided for ventilation.

To light the church, oil lamps, fixed on oak standards attached to the seats, were supplied. The paving was repaired; a Gurney stove installed at the west end of the nave, the iron flue pipe being carried through the roof of the south aisle; and curtains hung in two bays at the west end of the north aisle to form a vestry. The old pulpit which some years ago had been cut up and used in fitting up a vestry was skilfully pieced together and reinstated with its sound-board; and the old altar stone, found in the nave floor, refixed in the sanctuary on an oak base.

In addition, a coal shed has been put up in the churchyard.

Church of St.-John-the-Baptist, Whitchurch, Aylesbury.

The last report (pp. 59-60) gave a short account of this building, and stated that there was reason to hope that the Society's advice as to its reparation would be followed.

Happily this expectation has been realised, and the works are now being carried out under the Society's auspices. An account of them will probably be given in the next report.

St. Swithin's Church, Worcester.

A note upon this church appeared in the last report (p. 61).

At the invitation of the Rector a professional member of the Society met him at the building to discuss its proposed treatment. It is trusted that the scheme, which was one of "restoration," will be modified, and the present simple dignity of the church left unimpaired, although proper provision will be made for the needs of Divine Worship.

Porch, St. Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York.

It is much to be regretted that so far the church authorities have not been successful in raising the small sum, £30, required for the repair and preservative treatment of this most valuable building.

The Committee considers the necessity for carrying out the works so great, that it has offered to subscribe two guineas from the Society's Building Fund.

The Rector has sent out an urgent appeal, and it is hoped that it will meet with a ready response, so that the repairs may be done before the coming winter.

LIST OF BUILDINGS WHICH HAVE COME BEFORE THE SOCIETY DURING THE YEAR:

Abingdon Abbey, Berks.	Brockhampton, Worcestershire, Ancient House.
Adwick-on-Deerne Church, Yorks.	Buckingham, Chapel of the Royal Latin School.
Alford Church, Lincs., Tomb.	Bucklebury Church, Berks.
Alvechurch, Worcestershire, Ancient House	Bunney Church, Notts.
Ayot St. Lawrence, Herts., Ruins of Old Church.	Burton Coggles Church, Lincs.
Ayr, N.B., Collegiate Church of St. John.	Burwell Church, Lincs.
Bag Enderby Church, Lincs.	Bywell, Northumberland, St. Peter's Church.
Banbury, Oxon., Globe Room, Reindeer Inn.	Cambridge, Queen's College.
Barking Church, Essex.	Carnarvon Castle.
Battlefield Church, Salop.	Cartmell Fell Church, Lan- cashire.
Bearsted Church, Kent.	Cawston Church, Norfolk.
Beverley Minster, Yorks.	Cheltenham Church, Gloucester- shire.
Birmingham Cathedral Church Tower.	Chipping Campden Church, Gloucestershire.
Bledlow Church, Bucks.	Chithurst Church, Sussex.
Bolingbroke Castle, Lincs.	Christchurch Priory Church, Hants.
Bosbury, Herefordshire, Ancient Churchyard Cross.	Churchover Church, Rugby.
Boston, Lincs., The Guild Hall.	Cirencester Church, Gloucester- shire.
Brandon, Suffolk, Bridge.	Cleeve Abbey, Somerset.
Branscombe Church, Devon.	
Bristol, The Abbey Church House.	

Cockfield Church, Durham.	Esher, Surrey, St. George's Old Church.
Colne Church, Lancs.	Esher, Surrey, Wolsey's Tower.
Compton Beauchamp Church, Berks.	Eton College, Bucks.
Constantinople, Church of St. Sophia.	Farnham Church, Surrey.
Cors-y-Gedol Hall, Merioneths.	Farnham, Surrey, Ancient Houses.
Cotleigh Church, Devon.	Farnham Church, Yorks.
Crewe, Cheshire, Old House, Hightown.	Faversham Church, Kent, King Stephen's Monument.
Croydon, Surrey, Old Palace.	Fincham Church, Norfolk.
Croydon, Surrey, Whitgift Hospital.	Fordwich, Kent, Court Hall.
Croyland, Lincs., Ancient Bridge.	Foston Church, Yorks.
Croyland, Lincs., Old Mill.	Fritton Church, Norfolk, Screen.
Curry Rivel Church, Taunton, Somerset.	Gallygaer, Glamorgan, Roman Fort.
Cyprus, Antiquities of	Glasgow Cathedral, N.B.
Dartford, Kent, Bull Hotel.	Gooderstone Church, Norfolk.
Dartmouth, Devon, "The Butter Walk."	Grainthorpe Church, Lincs.
Downton-on-the-Rock Church, Herefordshire.	Grantham, Lincs., Ancient Cross.
Droitwich Church, Worcester-shire.	Graveney Church, Kent.
Dunster, Somerset, The Yarn Market.	Great Hampden Church, Bucks.
Eastbourne, Sussex, Old Parsonage.	Groby Old Hall, Leicester.
East Harling Church, Norfolk.	Guestling, Sussex, Ancient House.
East Thorpe Church, Essex.	Hadleigh Castle, Essex.
Edstaston Church, Salop.	Hanborough Church, Oxon.
Elmswell Church, Suffolk.	Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire.
Eltham Palace, Kent.	Hardwick Old Hall, Derbyshire.
Ely, Cambs., Old Bridge at	Harlton Church, Cambridge.
	Hawstead, Suffolk, Ancient House.
	Hendon Parish Church, Middlesex.
	Hereford, All Saints' Church Tower.
	Highworth, Wilts., Ancient Barn.

Holmer Church, Herefordshire.	Little Cressingham Church, Norfolk.
Honeychurch Church, Devon.	Little Fransham Church, Norfolk.
Hope Bagot Church, Salop.	Little Malvern Priory Church, Worcestershire.
Hornchurch, Essex, Breton's Farm.	Little Steeping Church, Lincs.
Horringer Church, Suffolk.	Little Washbourn Church, Worcestershire.
Hounslow, Middlesex, Whitton Park.	Llananno Church, Radnors, Ancient Screen.
Hurstmonceux Castle, Sussex.	Llanbabo Church, Anglesey.
Iffley Church Tower, Oxon.	Llanfwrog St. Murog Church, Anglesey.
Ilfracombe, Devon, Ancient Houses.	Llangollen, Denbighs, Bridge.
Ilmington Church, Shipston-on-Stour.	Llantwit Major Church, Glamorganshire.
Indian Monuments.	London, Chelsea, Chapel of the Royal Hospital.
Inglesham Church, Wilts.	London, Deptford, St. Nicholas Church Tower.
Kempley Church, Gloucestershire.	London, Kilburn, The Grange.
Keynsham, Somerset, The Church Bells.	London, Shoreditch, Sir Robert Jeffery's Almshouses, Kingsland Road.
Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, Bridge.	London, London Wall, St. Alphege Church.
Kingston, Surrey, Bridge.	London, Southgate, N., Broomfield Park.
Kirkwall, Orkney, N.B., St. Magnus Cathedral.	London, York Water Gate.
Langport Church, Somerset.	London, Smithfield, Ancient Houses, Bartholomew Close.
Leake Church, Yorks.	London, Whitehall Gardens, Board of Trade Offices.
Lechlade Church, Gloucestershire	Long Preston Church, Yorks.
Leicester, St. Margaret's Church Tower.	Ludlow Church, Salop.
Leighs Court, Faversham, Kent.	
Letchworth Church, Herts.	
Lewes, Sussex, Anne of Cleves' House, Southover.	
Limpsfield, Surrey, Old House.	
Lingfield Church, Surrey.	

Ludlow, Salop, The Butter Cross.
 Lutton Church, Lincs.
 Lydiate Hall, Lincs.
 Malinslee, Salop, Ruins of Chapel.
 Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.
 Malmesbury, Wilts., The Market Cross.
 Malvern Priory Church, Worcestershire.
 Manchester Cathedral.
 Manchester, Humphrey Chetham's Hospital.
 Manchester, Old Seven Stars Inn.
 Martley Church, Worcestershire.
 Mere, near Glastonbury, The Fish House.
 Merstham Church, Surrey.
 Middleton Church, Lincs., Screens.
 Mold Church, Flints.
 Monkwearmouth Church, Durham.
 Muchelney, Somerset, Old Priest's House.
 Naseby Church, Northants.
 Newark Abbey, Surrey.
 Newent Church, Gloucestershire.
 North Hinksey Church, Oxon.
 North Marston Church, Bucks.
 Northumberland, The Roman Wall.
 Nunney Castle, Somerset.
 Nutfield Church Tower, Surrey.
 Oakham Castle, Rutland.
 Ockham Church Tower, Surrey.

Oddington Church, Gloucestershire.
 Otley Church, Yorks.
 Oxford, Old Houses at.
 Packwood Church, Warwickshire.
 Penshurst Place, Kent.
 Plymtree Church, Devonshire.
 Portinscale Bridge, Keswick.
 Puddletown Church, Dorset.
 Queenborough Church, Kent.
 Radcot Bridge, Berks.
 Ranworth Church, Norfolk.
 Ranworth Old Hall, Norfolk.
 Ravensthorpe Church, Northants.
 Romford, Essex, Repton Cottage, Gidea Park.
 Ross Church Tower, Herefordshire.
 Ruckinge Church, Kent.
 Ruislip, Middlesex, Ancient House.
 Runwell Church, Essex.
 St. Mary Cray Church, Kent.
 St. Piran's Chapel, Cornwall.
 Salle Church, Norfolk.
 Salthouse Church, Norfolk.
 Sandwich, Kent, St. Peter's Church.
 Selby, Yorks., Old Houses.
 Shap Abbey, Westmorland.
 Sherburn, Yorks., St. Hilda's Church.
 Shrewsbury, Salop, Ancient Houses.
 Shrewsbury, Salop, Old Grammar School.

Somersby Church, Lincs.
 Southampton, Tudor and Norman
 Houses.
 Southend-on-Sea, Essex, Porter's
 Grange.
 South Petherton, Somerset,
 Ancient Houses.
 Spexhall Church, Suffolk
 Stafford, Chetwynd House.
 Stanton Lacy Church, Salop.
 Stockleigh English Church, Devon
 Stoke St. Milburgh Church, Salop
 Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire.
 Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick-
 shire, The Guild Chapel.
 Stydd Preceptory, Derbyshire.
 Sudbury, Suffolk, St. Peter's
 Church.
 Sudbury, Suffolk, Ancient Houses
 Sulhampstead Banister Church,
 Berks.
 Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire,
 Ancient House.
 Telford Church, Lincs.
 Thaxted, Essex, The Guildhall.
 Thompson Church, Norfolk.
 Threlkeld Church, Cumberland.
 Tilford East Bridge, Surrey.
 Tipton St. John, Devon, Barn.
 Todwick Church, Yorks.
 Toftrees Church, Norfolk.
 Tysoe Church, Warwickshire.
 Upton Church, Southwell, Notts.
 Walpole St. Peter's Church,
 Norfolk.

Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, Old
 Manor House.
 Warwick, The Beauchamp
 Chapel, St. Mary's Church.
 Watford Church, Northants.
 Wells Cathedral, Somersetshire.
 Welwyn Church, Herts.
 Westhorpe Church, Suffolk.
 West Malling, Kent, Gundulf's
 Tower, St. Leonard's.
 Whaplode Church, Lincs.
 Whenby Church, Yorks.
 Whitchurch Church, Aylesbury,
 Bucks.
 Wickham, Hants., Old Cottage.
 Widford Church, Oxon.
 Willersey, Broadway, Gloucester-
 shire, Buildings.
 Wimborne Minster, Dorset, Bells.
 Winchester Cathedral.
 Winchester, St. Cross Church.
 Winchester, St. Cross Hospital.
 Windermere Church, Westmor-
 land.
 Witley Church, Surrey.
 Wittersham Church, Kent.
 Wood Newton Church, Northants.
 Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
 Yarnton Church, Oxon.
 York, Christ Church, King Square.
 York Minster.
 York, St. Cuthbert's Church.
 York, St. Margaret's Church,
 Walmgate, Porch.
 York, St. Mary's Abbey.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1910.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1909, as per last statement ...	116 2 3	By Payments during the year 1910:	
Donations ...	3 3 0	Rector of Walpole St. Peter, Wisbech, for Church Repair Fund ...	2 0 0
Amount received for specified building ...	2 0 0	Rector of Llanbabo, Anglesey, for Church Repair Fund ...	2 2 0
		Vicar of Bledlow, Bucks., for Church Repair Fund ...	2 2 0
		Vicar of Whaplode, Lincs., for Church Repair Fund ...	11 0 0
		Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1910	17 4 0
	<u>£121 5 3</u>		104 1 3
			<u>£121 5 3</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers, and found correct,

WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

5th June, 1911.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1910.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, as per last statement	93 17 9	By amount transferred to General Account	27 0 0
„ „ Interest	2 0 5	„ Amount on Deposit, London City and Midland Bank	68 18 2
	<u>£95 18 2</u>		<u>£95 18 2</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct.

WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

5th June, 1911.

Somersby Church, Lincs.
 Southampton, Tudor and Norman
 Houses.
 Southend-on-Sea, Essex, Porter's
 Grange.
 South Petherton, Somerset,
 Ancient Houses.
 Spexhall Church, Suffolk
 Stafford, Chetwynd House.
 Stanton Lacy Church, Salop.
 Stockleigh English Church, Devon
 Stoke St. Milburgh Church, Salop
 Stoneleigh Abbey, Warwickshire.
 Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick-
 shire, The Guild Chapel.
 Stydd Preceptory, Derbyshire.
 Sudbury, Suffolk, St. Peter's
 Church.
 Sudbury, Suffolk, Ancient Houses
 Sulhampstead Banister Church,
 Berks.
 Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire,
 Ancient House.
 Telford Church, Lincs.
 Thaxted, Essex, The Guildhall.
 Thompson Church, Norfolk.
 Threlkeld Church, Cumberland.
 Tilford East Bridge, Surrey.
 Tipton St. John, Devon, Barn.
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 Toftrees Church, Norfolk.
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 Norfolk.

Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, Old
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 West Malling, Kent, Gundulf's
 Tower, St. Leonard's.
 Whaplode Church, Lincs.
 Whenby Church, Yorks.
 Whitechurch Church, Aylesbury,
 Bucks.
 Wickham, Hants., Old Cottage.
 Widford Church, Oxon.
 Willersey, Broadway, Gloucester-
 shire, Buildings.
 Wimborne Minster, Dorset, Bells.
 Winchester Cathedral.
 Winchester, St. Cross Church.
 Winchester, St. Cross Hospital.
 Windermere Church, Westmor-
 land.
 Witley Church, Surrey.
 Wittersham Church, Kent.
 Wood Newton Church, Northants.
 Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
 Yarnton Church, Oxon.
 York, Christ Church, King Square.
 York Minster.
 York, St. Cuthbert's Church.
 York, St. Margaret's Church,
 Walmgate, Porch.
 York, St. Mary's Abbey.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

Dr. STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1910. Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1909, as per last statement	116 2 3	By Payments during the year 1910:	
Donations	3 3 0	Rector of Walpole St. Peter, Wisbech, for Church Repair Fund	2 0 0
Amount received for specified building	2 0 0	Rector of Llanbabo, Anglesey, for Church Repair Fund	2 2 0
		Vicar of Bledlow, Bucks., for Church Repair Fund	2 2 0
		Vicar of Whaplode, Lincs., for Church Repair Fund	11 0 0
		Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1910	104 1 3
			<u>121 5 3</u>
			<u>17 4 0</u>
			<u>104 1 3</u>
			<u>121 5 3</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers, and found correct,

WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

5th June, 1911.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1910.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, as per last statement	93 17 9	By amount transferred to General Account	27 0 0
„ Interest	2 0 5	„ Amount on Deposit, London City and Midland Bank	68 18 2
	<u>£95 18 2</u>		<u>£95 18 2</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WM. SIMMONS, *Auditor*,

5th June, 1911.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Cr.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1910.

Dr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1909, as per last statement	3 10 7	By Payments during the year 1910:	42 18 0
„ Receipts during the year 1910:		Printing Office Expenses, including Secretary's Travelling Expenses	38 18 1½
„ Annual and Life Subscriptions	302 12 0	Members' Travelling Expenses	24 16 2
Donations	7 7 0	Fee Paid through the Society	3 3 0
Received for Travelling Expenses in visiting Buildings and Sale of Reports	6 1 6	Secretary's Salary	120 0 0
Fee paid through the Society	3 3 0	Clerk's Salary	91 0 0
Transferred from Morris Fund	27 0 0	Rent of Office	25 0 0
	346 3 6		345 15 3½
		„ Cash at London City and Midland Bank, 31st December, 1910	2 1 10
		„ Cash at Office	1 16 1½
			3 18 9½
	<u>£349 14 1</u>		<u>£349 14 1</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers and found correct,

WM. SIMMONS, Auditor.

5th June, 1911.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

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Subscriptions to be sent to the Secretary, THACKERAY TURNER,
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 R. G. K. Wrench, *Kingsgate Street, Winchester.*
 Miss Harriot Yorke, 190, *Marylebone Road, N.W.*
 J. R. Yorke, 2, *Chesham Street, W.*
 Lady Younghusband, 21, *Bruton Street, Berkeley Square, W.*
 Count Zorzi, *Venice.* (Hon. Mem.)

If any Member finds his or her name incorrectly given, the Secretary
 will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

The Society regrets the loss by death of the following members:—

T. Armstrong, C.B.
Colonel Eustace Balfour, A.D.C., V.D., F.S.A.
The Earl of Carlisle.
Rt. Hon. Sir C. W. Dilke, Bart., M.P.
Miss Ewart.
Charles F. Grindrod, L.R.C.P. (Edin.), L.S.A.
W. Holman Hunt, O.M.
Henry Lucas.
Rev. Newton Mant, F.S.A.
Vincent J. Robinson, F.S.A.
George Y. Wardle.
Hon. Percy Wyndham.

Whilst this report was in the press the Committee heard with deep regret of the death, after a very brief illness, of MR. JOHN KENT, the Society's Assistant Secretary. Mr. Kent entered upon his duties in the year 1883, and throughout his long period of service devoted himself to the Society's work, and was unfailing in his efforts to further the cause.

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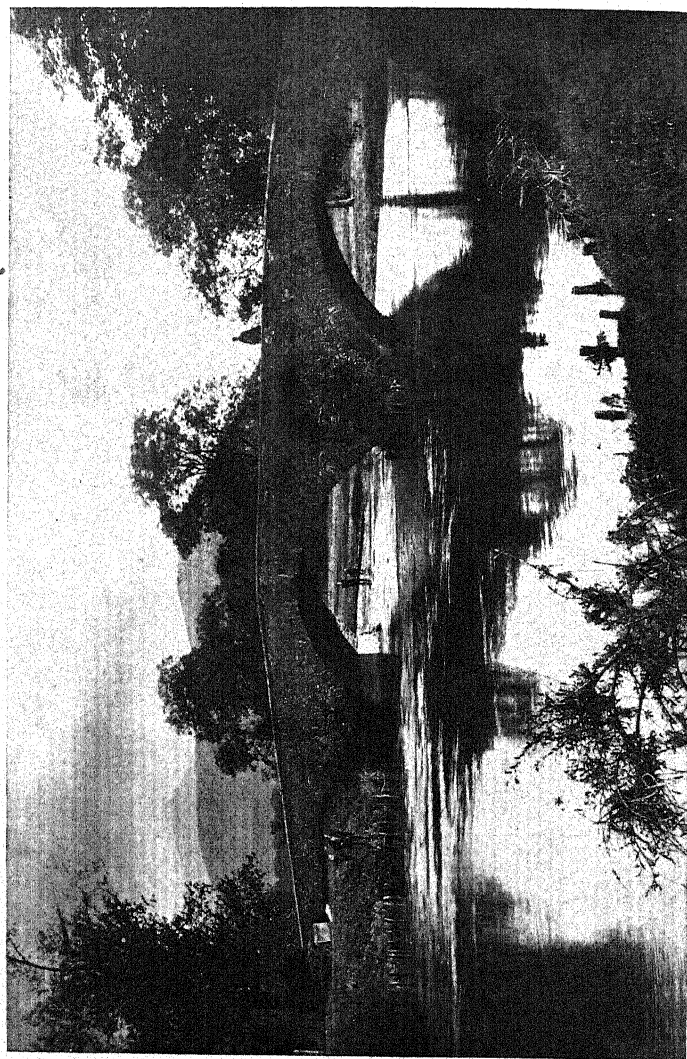


Photo: G.L. Abraham Keswick

PORTINSCALE BRIDGE

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION
OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS. THIRTY-
FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE: AND PAPER READ BY
THE MASTER OF CHARTERHOUSE AT
THE GENERAL MEETING, JUNE, 1912.

A. R. POWYS, SECRETARY,
20, BUCKINGHAM STREET,
STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

COMMITTEE:

W. C. ALEXANDER	Hon. R. C. GROSVENOR
Rt. Hon. Lord AVEBURY, D.C.L., F.R.S., F.S.A.	JOHN HEBB, F.R.I.B.A.
OLIVER BAKER	Mrs. HERRINGHAM
Lord BALCARRES, M.P., F.S.A.	J. P. HESELTINE
Rev. OSWALD BIRCHALL	J. R. HOLLIDAY
DETMAR J. BLOW, F.R.I.B.A.	GEORGE JACK
ERNEST E. BOWDEN	GEORGE JEFFERY
Rev. STOPFORD A. BROOKE	JAMES KENNEDY
Rt. Hon. JAMES BRYCE	Rt. Hon. WM. KENRICK
INGRAM BYWATER	S. WAYLAND KERSHAW, F.S.A.
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T. J. COBDEN-SANDERSON	ALFRED MARKS
SYDNEY C. COCKERELL	Miss MAY MORRIS
Sir SIDNEY COLVIN	A. H. HALLAM MURRAY, F.S.A.
A. K. COOMARASWAMY, D.Sc.	PHILIP NORMAN, LL.D., F.S.A.
Rt. Hon. Lord COURTNEY of Penwith	BASIL OLIVER, A.R.I.B.A.
W. H. COWLISHAW	ARTHUR M. PHILIPS
LIONEL F. CRANE	G. T. PILCHER
W. DE MORGAN	HARRY REDFERN, F.R.I.B.A.
RICHARDSON EVANS	JOHN RICHMOND
CECIL M. FIRTH	Sir W. B. RICHMOND, K.C.B., R.A.
G. RUTTER FLETCHER, F.S.A.	T. M. ROOKE, R.W.S.
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	Mrs. THICKNESSE

F. W. TROUP, F.R.I.B.A.
THACKERAY TURNER, F.S.A.,
F.R.I.B.A. (*Chairman of Com-
mittee*)
EMERY WALKER, F.S.A.

PHILIP WEBB
WILLIAM WEIR
A. RANDALL WELLS
F. A. WHITE
CHARLES C. WINMILL

Members of the Society are invited to attend the meetings of the
Committee as visitors.

HONORARY SECRETARIES:

LORD BALCARRES, M.P., F.S.A., 7, Audley Square, W.
G. RUTTER FLETCHER, F.S.A., 22, Causton Road, Highgate, N.
Hon. R. C. GROSVENOR, 2, Harcourt Buildings, Temple, E.C.
WALTER K. SHIRLEY, 12, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C.

HONORARY TREASURER:

JAMES F. DYSON, 449, Strand, W.C.

BANKERS:

LONDON CITY & MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED, 449, Strand, W.C.

SECRETARY:

A. R. POWYS, 20, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Society has received a serious blow in the resignation of its Secretary, Mr. Thackeray Turner, after twenty-nine years of indefatigable activity for the protection and conservation of Ancient Buildings. It is impossible to overstate the debt which the Society, and those who share its principles, owe to Mr. Turner's devoted service. Fortunately he remains an active member of the Committee, which will continue to benefit by his unique experience and knowledge.

He has been succeeded as Secretary by Mr. A. R. Powys, an Architect who has long been interested in the work of the Society, and who has had the great advantage of being associated with Mr. William Weir, in strengthening and upholding the fabric of various country churches, as well as with Mr. Thackeray Turner in repairing ancient domestic buildings.

Another loss unhappily remains to be recorded. Mr. John Kent, the Assistant Secretary, whose constant zeal did so much to lessen the burden of the Committee's weekly deliberations and of the Secretary's ensuing labours, died on July 12th, 1911, after a short illness. His place has been filled by Mr. A. E. Cockerell, who was trained in Mr. Thackeray Turner's office.

Abingdon Abbey, Berkshire.

The condition of the beautiful thirteenth century chimney of the Prior's Lodging, was described in last year's report.

The Abingdon Corporation have since taken steps to thoroughly overhaul and repair this under the close personal guidance of a professional member of the Society ; and it is gratifying to be able to state that this interesting relic of mediæval architecture is now sound and stable.

The repair was a somewhat difficult task.

Asbby-de-la-Zouch Church, Leicestershire.

At the request of the Church authorities this building was visited by a professional member of this Society. His report, which chiefly concerned the nave roof and the stonework of the tower, was approved by the Committee and has been adopted by the Vicar and Churchwardens.

Toward the end of the last century two aisles were added to the nave and drastic works of restoration were carried out. As a consequence of this the appearance of the building lost much of the charm of the mediæval work and the beauty which is acquired by time alone. Fortunately, the nave roof and the greater part of the tower remain unspoiled. The nave roof is nearly flat and is covered with lead. The principal beams and the feet of the rafters have decayed very much. The stonework of the tower, which is of a very beautiful colour, is much perished, and the set-offs of the buttresses are loose. There is also a serious crack in the staircase wall from top to bottom. The decay of the stone is doubtless due to the proximity of the collieries and potteries, and it is this work which calls for immediate attention.

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The work is to be carried out during the summer of 1912, in accordance with the principles of the Society.

St. Philip's Cathedral Church Tower, Birmingham.

The repair and preservation of the decayed stone on the exterior of this tower has recently been carried out, in accordance with the report of the Society, by a local Architect, in a manner which gives cause for much satisfaction.

St. Mary's Church, Bunney, Nottinghamshire.

A description of this interesting building was given in the last report (pp. 13-16). The church authorities decided to adopt the Society's recommendations, and during the past year the works have been successfully carried out under the direction of an Architect in consultation with the Society.

The chief works embraced the repair and repointing of the walls and parapets, and the construction of a concrete surface channel, faced with York stone, around the building, and connected by drains to a brick storage tank in the churchyard, the entire repair of the chancel and nave roofs, and the recasting and relaying of the lead covering, the repair of the defective masonry of the windows, etc., by the Society's usual method, and the reglazing of the old crown glass, in new leadwork where required.

Unfortunately, the windows in the two aisles are glazed with cathedral glass, inserted some years ago in place of the beautiful old crown glass.

A boiler house and stove were placed on the north side of the churchyard against the boundary wall, and a low-pressure hot-water apparatus installed in the church and con-

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nected to the boiler by carrying the pipes in a trench across the churchyard.

A choir vestry was formed on the ground floor of the tower, where a modern screen already existed across the tower arch.

New choir seats, of English oak, have been provided in the chancel since the completion of the repair of the church, but for these the Society is not responsible.

Repair of Watch Tower, Cyprus.

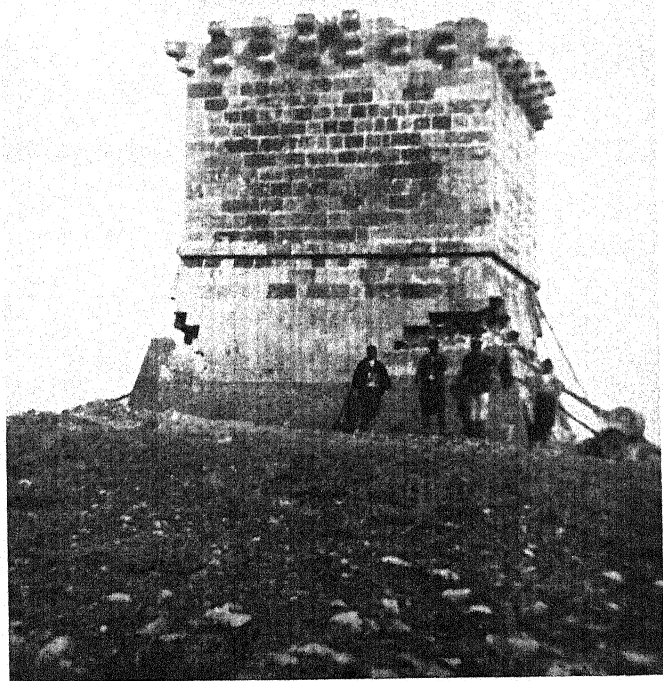
We give an illustration of a small watch tower, built on the coast of the island of Cyprus during the fifteenth century, in order to call attention to the method adopted by our member, Mr. George Jeffery, F.S.A., in its repair.

Since 1870, the stones had been picked out from the lower part of the tower, by the peasants of the district, to such an extent that there was danger of its falling. The repair consisted of filling in, where the stones had been removed, with concrete, and as this material will be of no use to the natives if removed, it is probable that the preservation of the interesting building is assured.

The doorway of the tower has over it the Lion of St. Mark, and a shield on either side, all perfectly preserved.

Denbury Church, Devon.

At the request of the Rector, the Society made a survey of this church and submitted a full report dealing with the works required for the repair of the building. The Committee is glad to state that the necessary works are now being carried out, under the auspices of the Society, and hopes to be able to give a description of the work in the next report.



WATCH TOWER, CYPRUS

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Old Parsonage, Eastbourne, Sussex.

With the consent of the owner, His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, this interesting building was visited by a member of the Society who reported to the Committee. With the exception of the internal arrangements the building has not been materially altered since it was built in the fifteenth century. The walls are of flint with stone dressings and the latter have perished badly.

The building measures about twenty-six feet wide and seventy-six feet long, and contains a large hall on the ground floor having an open fireplace. The following repairs were found to be necessary.

The exterior wall surfaces need pointing, and the chimney tops, which unfortunately are not the original, but are of modern brickwork, repairing and pointing.

The decayed stone dressings require to be repaired and treated with baryta and lime, and the missing glazing renewed with crown glass in leaded lights. The roofs need to be stripped and the timbers repaired in position. The floor timbers, also, must be repaired, and, in some instances, renewed. The oak floor boards require careful attention.

The exposed oak should be well scrubbed with a stiff brush and left in its natural condition. The eaves gutters which are missing need replacing by gutters of English oak, made in a substantial manner.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that these works have every likelihood of being carried out on the lines recommended by the Society, although not directly under its auspices. The Duke of Devonshire has very generously given the building to the Parish Church, and the intention is to adapt it for use as a Parish Hall, with living rooms on the first floor

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for a curate and caretaker. This proposal necessitates the modification of the plan and certain external additions, which latter are designed so as to interfere as little as possible with the original building.

Wolsey's Tower, Esher Place, Surrey.

Referring to the report of 1911 it will be found that the Society reported on this ruin to the owner, Sir Edgar Vincent.

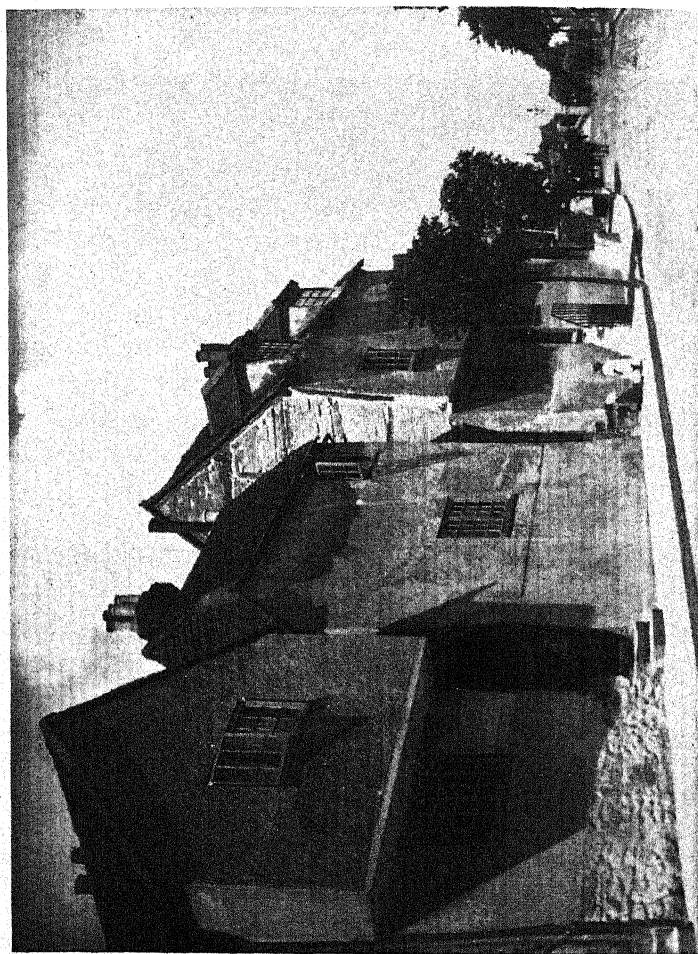
The Committee has now been informed that all the ivy has been removed and work of repair is to be undertaken at once.

Cloisters, Eton College, Bucks.

In spite of very general protest from individuals, and from this Society, the iron railings have been removed from the west side of the Cloisters of Eton College and it is believed that the gradual removal of those on the north side will take place unless better counsels prevail. By action of this sort the authorities give reason to those who urge the National control of valuable ancient buildings.

Exeter Cathedral.

It is distressing to have to report that work of drastic "restoration" still continues to be carried out at this Cathedral. The string course under the parapet on the south side of the nave was being renewed during last summer, and the old carved heads which appeared to be quite sound were being cut out and replaced by modern imitations. Work



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ANCIENT COTTAGES, FARNHAM ROAD, GUILDFORD

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of the same nature was in progress on the north side of the nave. Scaffolding had been erected in front of the north porch where the masonry showed no signs of movement and, with the exception of surface decay, was quite sound. The renewal of the west front is still in progress. The jambs of the central porch with the canopies and mouldings have been renewed. Destructive work, of a similar nature to that already mentioned, is also being carried out elsewhere about the building.

Ancient Houses, Farnham, Surrey.

We are glad to be able to report that an important meeting was held at Farnham Castle, by permission of the Bishop of Winchester, to inaugurate a local Society (to be affiliated to this Society), and there is, therefore, every hope that the danger which threatened the buildings referred to in the 1911 report, will be averted.

Ancient Cottages, Farnham Road, Guildford.

The block for the reproduction of the accompanying view, made from a photograph taken by our member, Mr. C. H. Parry, has very kindly been lent to the Society by the Editor of *Country Life*.

It shows a group of cottages at Guildford, situated on the left hand side of the street leading out of Guildford, towards Farnham.

The fate of these cottages still remains uncertain, though it is impossible to believe that they can be destroyed, as the

owners do not wish to sell, the town authorities do not wish to buy, and the Surrey County Council do not wish them to be destroyed.

But there are difficulties to be overcome, as, by a scheme of long standing, a bargain was struck by which the road was to be widened, and naturally the County Council feels that, if it is to be abandoned, the town ought to make some concession elsewhere.

Guildford is largely visited on account of its old-world character, and these cottages are the first buildings of interest which meet the travellers' eye upon leaving the railway station, and, as a leading article in the *Times*, which insisted on the necessity of their preservation said—"They look humble and rightly so because they are cottages, but they also look extraordinarily well-bred compared with most of the buildings near them, and they have a peculiar beauty of their own, which is quite different from the beauty of the great Cathedral, as a folk song has a peculiar beauty which is quite different from a symphony by Beethoven."

The Protection of Arabic Art in Egypt.

The important question of the conservation of Arabic Art in Egypt came to the notice of the Committee, and the following letter was received from our member, Mr. Somers Clarke, who is well acquainted with the conditions under which the work is carried on. His letter is of considerable interest, and the Committee trusts that "conservation" and not "restoration" will, in future, be more and more the aim of those whose privilege it is to have the ancient buildings in Egypt in their care.

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MENA HOUSE,
PYRAMIDS, EGYPT.

April 27th, 1912.

To the Secretary,
The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

DEAR SIR,

Your letter of April 3rd came to me only yesterday. It raises a question of much complexity.

The title of the Committee to which you refer is, as you know, "Comité de Conservation," etc., etc., not "de Restoration." The word "conservation" was one happily selected as it enforces the fact that Conservation and Restoration are two very different things.

You will have observed that acting members of the Comité are men of various nationalities. England is represented at present by only two members, Mr. Dupuis and Mr. H. Farnall. The former gentleman is adviser to the Ministry of Public Works. From his official position he is naturally placed on the Comité, but, immersed as he is in the most important matters connected with Irrigation, the very life of the country, he has but little time to devote to such details as come before the Comité, and, in addition, the details of Archæological and Architectural knowledge are not in his line. It is evident that, *ex-officio*, he should be a member of the Comité, but we cannot expect that he can do more than he now does.

Mr. H. Farnall, British Commissioner in the Caisse de la Dette Publique, is a man particularly interested in all matters connected with art and its history. He has time and a good heart to devote to the subjects which come before the Comité.

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It is one or two more Englishmen of his type who are much needed upon the Comité.

It was from England, formulated by William Morris, that first came the appreciation of Conservation as distinguished from Restoration (usually equivalent to destruction) and England is still in the front of the movement.

It will be observed that out of the eighteen members whose names are given in the "Exercise for 1910," ten are from Egypt the rest from various nationalities, and for the most part holding official positions which are a very sufficient reason why they should be members, but which are not necessarily guarantees for special knowledge in the necessary direction.

Your letter called attention to the comparatively thin attendances of members, but I believe it would be found that those who attend are those who are really most interested in the matter in hand.

I am very happy to say that Herz Bey, the Architect to the Comité, shows himself more and more desirous to follow out the duties implied by the name of the body with which he is associated. Where he is compelled to renew he, in all cases, inserts the date of such renewal, so that those who can read may learn for themselves when each part of the repair was done.

This is carried out so thoroughly that so small a thing as a repaired bronze plate on a door is dated. To one thing I can testify. The door (to take an example) cannot be left with the old and ragged bronze work on it and other parts altogether wanting. So left, the door falls a prey to the industries of boys and men who continue to pick and destroy till nothing is left. When repaired this form of injury ceases and, consequently, the old is preserved.

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It is much to be regretted that some very unnecessary works of restoration in the worst sense have been done in the past. As, for example, the removal of the wooden canopy over the Tomb of Sultan Kalaûn, condemned because it was "Turkish" and "not in style," also the removal of the small "sebil," or fountain, in the court of the Mosque of Sultan Hassan. Not only was this "sebil" condemned and removed (but fortunately not destroyed), but the whole pavement of this great courtyard in which the "sebil" stood was condemned and was to be renewed "in the style, etc."

I am happy to say that better counsels have prevailed, the pavement, made of interesting fragments of fine marbles and porphyries, has been carefully repaired and re-laid: a thing very necessary for its preservation as it is exposed to the air and occasional rains.

I believe that Herz Bey would be very willing to reinstate the little "sebil" if the Comité can see its way to do so, and we might venture to hope that the wooden canopy of the tomb of Sultan Kalaûn, which is, I believe, somewhere stored away, might once more be replaced, as it certainly ought to be.

I am, yours faithfully,
SOMERS CLARKE.

Hadleigh Castle, Essex.

The works of repair mentioned in the last report as being in progress have now been completed in a most satisfactory manner.

Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire.

Extensive work of repair has been carried on during the past year on the lines of the Society's report. The external facework and mouldings have largely decayed owing to sulphurous pollution of the atmosphere. Much has fallen at touch and more required to be removed before any lasting repair could be attempted. But no stone, or portion of a stone, has been removed which it was thought possible to preserve by chemical treatment, and the result is that the Hall, though looking somewhat cleaner than before, owing to the use of these preservatives, still keeps its authenticity both in fact and appearance. Tiles bedded in lias lime and sand and wedged into grooves have been employed for the greater portion of this work, but in places exposed to the action of wet or exceptional strain, Birmingham patent water-proof cement has been used in place of lime. Prof. Church's baryta treatment, followed by a coat of lime water or Perpetuin patent fixative, has been used for the chemical preservation of the sounder surfaces. In this way the north and west fronts have been dealt with and it is hoped to complete the work on the other fronts before the autumn.

Serious cracks, extending in many cases from top to bottom, exist in most of the turrets. The turrets have been tied by iron tie-rods, their outer portions buried in cement-concrete, and the cracks themselves have been tied externally with tiles across the joints and thoroughly grouted up.

Internally much of the work of repair has been occasioned by the decay of the oak lintels, from leaky roofs or want of ventilation. Thus in the "Western Turret" a lintel has its end completely rotted away, and is being replaced with reinforced concrete. In the Picture Gallery all the floor and

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ceiling beams were examined. They appear to have been put in green—in such a hurry was Countess Bess to finish her building—and have twisted and shrunk to an extraordinary degree, but they have been carefully attended to in the past. Such places as were overlooked have now been repaired, and the plaster floors and ceilings made good.

More serious was the condition of the oak beams across the bay windows, and the arches above which carry the back sides of the turrets overhead. The stone seatings were loose, and the more northerly had been made worse by the insertion of a deal sub-beam, too small to help the main beam. These seatings were rebuilt and the arches above secured by iron tie rods. The back portions of the walls above were rebuilt in reinforced concrete to partially relieve the strain on the arches. An iron tie rod was employed to secure the arch which crosses the south end of the Picture Gallery and Presence Chamber, and which was forcing out its narrow abutments. The north and south windows of the Picture Gallery, which had been closed with plaster partitions, were opened out and the interesting old glass brought to view. The cracks in the painted frieze of the Presence Chamber were carefully repaired, and in examining the ends of the beam over the bay-windows some fragments of this frieze were discovered stowed in behind it, and these were replaced in their original positions.

Hardwick Old Hall, Derbyshire.

The ruins of the older Hall have been repaired simultaneously with the newer building of Countess Bess, but on different lines owing to the different state of the buildings. No attempt has been made to repair any of the ornamental

work, but the work confined to merely keeping the walls together. The trees and vegetation have been removed from the tops of the walls, which have been covered with cement concrete, covered in turn with a layer of turf, window-sills and other exposed surfaces have been treated in the same way. The oak lintels, rotten from years of exposure, have been replaced with reinforced concrete. In places where it seemed necessary for the preservation of what remained, missing portions of window tracery have been made good from fragments found in the ruins. The broken stone steps of the staircase are being supported on an under-work of concrete. The tile-covered deal roof over the main landing or "half pace," rotten from years of neglect, has been replaced by a roof made from old oak found in the ruins. It is temporarily covered with ruberoid, but it is hoped that this will in time be replaced by lead, the original covering.

The remains of the modelled plaster frieze in the "Forest Great Chamber" and modelled over-mantles of other rooms have been protected by small pent roofs of tiles, grooved and copper dowelled into the wall above them, and the plaster itself treated with a special lime wash.

The northern half of the ruins has been treated as thus described: there still remains the Giant's Chamber and the rooms about it. This portion is the most complete, as 100 years ago it was covered with lead, and it is not many years since the oak roof fell in.

Heath Chapel, Shropshire.

The Society were invited to report on this church in November, and work has already been begun on the most urgent repairs then recommended. The report may be sum-

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marised as follows:—The Chapel was built about 1090, and consists of a small nave and chancel, with the flat buttresses, continuous strings, and small circular headed windows of that date. There is a single door to the south, with carved capitals and orders, and a tympanum which still bears some incised lines. The four columns have been recently inserted, and on the north side a plain cottage window has been substituted for one of the narrow Norman lights, but practically every other portion of the walling remains as it was in the days of William Rufus.

The nave has oak principals, but the rafters are recent and of stained deal. The chancel has a complete oak roof of some age, but hidden by a late flat ceiling. Both roofs are covered with thin hand-made tiles which must have replaced an earlier covering of stone.

The floor was of mud till comparatively recently when it was flagged. The seating, partly fifteenth century benches with massive moulded ends, partly panelled and carved Jacobean square pews, was separated from the aisles by deep curbs to retain the straw with which their floors were covered. There appears to have been a chancel screen to judge from a moulded and machicolated oak beam, which was subsequently used for one of these curbs. The pulpit and altar are of the same date as the pews. The church furniture has been repaired from time to time with the wood that came handiest, poplar here, wych there, with one or two badly made deal patches of recent date.

The walls appear to be covered with paintings—even superimposed—which should only be uncovered with the greatest care, as they are excessively fragile owing to the poor surface on which they were made. The walls were either laid in mud or in mortar almost innocent of lime, so

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that the plaster has parted inside and the joints opened outside. The ground level is above the floor and the church very damp in consequence. There is no foundation, and the roof, having no sufficient tie, has thrust out the walls. The buttresses are insufficiently tied to the main walls and several are in danger of collapsing.

It was recommended that the foundations should be underpinned, the cracks carefully repaired according to the Society's usual methods, the joints raked and pointed with lias lime and sharp sand. The dressed sandstone of the windows, door and buttresses, where it is perishing on the face, should be preserved by the baryta treatment. A damp course should be inserted, but as some of the charm of the Heath Chapel is due to the way in which it rises straight from a green field, stone channelling was not recommended: but, after removal of the earth to six inches below floor level, a drain should be formed, with dry rubbish and agricultural pipes, and covered over with turf. The whole of the floor should be taken up and cement concrete inserted over a layer of dry rubble and the flags relaid.

Various repairs to the seating are necessary, and, if possible, oak should be substituted for the deal flooring of the pews, but careful old repairs should not be touched because they are in poplar or other wood. The chancel ceiling should be removed, and, if funds admit, oak rafters of more generous width should replace the deal rafters of the nave. The iron down pipes should be replaced with falls of cast sheet lead. A heating stove is urgently needed.

The seating arrangements belong to an epoch when the pulpit was the centre of the church and the seats are focussed on it, those to east having their backs to the altar. The only provision for the priest is a temporary bench at the foot

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of the pulpit, likewise with its back to the altar. By the removal of the fifteenth-century bench and square pew on the south of the chancel to a reverse position on the north—now unoccupied—proper provision can be made both for the priest and the choir. In the nave, though the square pews in many churches might be considered impossible, it appears desirable to retain as much as possible of an arrangement which is interesting historically, and all the more because it can only survive in rare cases. As the total population is under sixty no difficulty will be experienced on ordinary occasions, but this paucity of numbers makes the parish almost entirely dependent on the outside public for raising the £500 required for the proper repair of this most valuable building.

Ancient Tithe Barn, Highworth, Wiltshire.

In the report of June, 1911, it was stated that a proposal to adapt this building for parish or village uses was being considered.

We regret that no steps have been taken in this direction: but that the owner has had the stone slate covering stripped from the roof so that the timbers are now exposed to the action of the weather. This will very shortly render the repair of the barn impossible, except at great cost.

Iffley Church, Oxfordshire.

The Norman tower of this interesting and well-known church was found to be in an exceedingly unsatisfactory condition: cracks had appeared in the walling of the belfry

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stage, near the angle stair turret and elsewhere, and the ashlar facing showed marked symptoms of decay. Also the pointing of the lower portion of the walls had perished and was dropping off.

A careful inspection by one of the professional members of the Society disclosed the fact that the bell frame—badly framed and much decayed—was in actual contact with the south wall of the tower and was obviously doing great mischief to the stability of the structure.

A report, setting out the defects in detail, with suggestions for their treatment, was sent to the Vicar; who promptly and with great energy set about raising the necessary funds.

The work was put in hand last June, and all that the report advised has been done, under the constant supervision of the Architect.

The bells have been re-hung in an English oak frame (partly new and partly made up from sound portions of the old frame) set free from the walls on all sides.

The masonry of the tower has been thoroughly repaired from ground to parapet, as also has that of the nave.

The general result is entirely satisfactory in every way.

Ancient Walls of Jerusalem.

Long tracts of the ancient walls of Jerusalem are now enclosed within the property boundaries of religious or private owners. In such cases the wall will doubtless be considered to form an encumbrance on the free use of the site, and in all probability its gradual removal will be the result. The matter is a grievous one, and it is difficult to take any effective action to preserve those portions which yet remain intact.

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Ancient Church, Kempley, Gloucestershire.

In the report for 1911, the proposal to repair the ancient church of the parish of Kempley was described in general terms. During the past year, at the request of the Earl Beauchamp, a professional member of the Society visited the church and made a careful report on the condition of the building.

The church is of exceptional interest. The chancel and nave appear to have been built early in the twelfth century and the tower about 100 years later. The chancel is barrel-vaulted, and the interior is coated with a thin layer of plaster richly decorated with painting contemporary with the building. On the nave walls also there are remains of the original and superimposed paintings.

The barrel vault of the chancel has cracked at the apex and requires to be carefully treated. Many other works of repair are needed throughout the building, and the estimate made for the whole was £750.

It is with deep regret that the Committee has learned that the Society's report is not to be followed; but that a scheme, for which £1,600 is being asked, is to be carried out.

It augurs no good to this beautiful church that an amount of money is to be spent upon it which is more than double the amount considered necessary by this Society to make the building a fit place for Divine Worship.

Langport Church, Somerset.

This church was visited by a member of the Society in 1910, and the works then recommended for the tower have since been carried out.

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The tower is about eighty feet high, nineteen feet square internally, and appears to have been erected in the fifteenth century. It is built of coursed lias limestone. The windows and buttresses are built of an oolite stone.

The limestone was eaten away at the joints by the action of the weather. The portion above the belfry windows had been refaced during the end of the last century, and its appearance is not harmonious with the old work. The church is beautifully situated over-looking the valleys of the Yeo and Parrett.

The foundation of the tower was found to be on solid rock at about three feet below the surface of the ground. A scaffold was erected to the top of the tower, and on inspection the latter proved to be strongly built, the stonework having very fine joints. The scaling surface of the stonework was cleaned off, and in those places where the decay was deep the joints were cut out to a sufficient depth and width to take pieces of slates or tiles bedded in blue lias lime mortar, these were inserted to form a proper key for the subsequent pointing. Five coats of baryta water were then brushed over the whole surface of the tower and the joints were filled in flush with lias lime mortar. As many as thirty to forty coats of baryta water were sprayed on to the pinnacles and niches of the belfry and ringing chamber stages. Some of the gargoyles were found to be much decayed and were liable to fall. These were repaired with tile work and strengthened with copper bolts and cramps, and after receiving many coats of baryta water were covered with a weathering of fine cement-concrete.

The thin walls of the staircase turret were pointed with cement-mortar as rain was found to drive right through in windy weather. All the stones which remained with a ten-

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dency to flake were then treated with one coat of limewash and with one coat of perpetuin fixative, toned with raw umber and lamp black to break the crude white.

The flagstaff was rearranged and the lead on the top of the turret taken up and relaid on new deal boarding.

Similar works of repair were carried out to the external face of the chancel and south aisle, which are built in the same manner, but the dressed stone used in these parts of the church came from Ham Hill.

The gargoyles of the chancel—many of which are very delicately carved—were in a dilapidated condition, and although the work of repair was very difficult and needed great care it was eventually carried out with success by means of tilework in mortar, with the addition of copper dowels and cramps.

Some slight cracks which had recently appeared in the walls near the top of the tower seemed to be due to the arrangement of the iron bell cage which was fixed at its head to the walls on all sides, and transmitted the jar of the bells direct to the walls of the tower. This iron cage is to be replaced by one of English oak, properly framed and braced, and which is designed to take eight bells.

London. York Water Gate, Adelphi.

The Committee represented to the London County Council, the custodians of the York Water Gate, that the masonry was in need of attention as it showed signs of decay. It is gratifying to be able to report that the exterior of this unique piece of architecture has been thoroughly repaired under the direction of the Council's Superintending Architect, Mr. W. E. Riley, F.R.I.B.A., in consultation with the Council's

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chief chemist, Dr. Clowes, and that the methods adopted, and the results achieved, are entirely in accordance with the Society's views. The Committee understands that the interior will be undertaken in the summer of this year.

By the courtesy of the Council the Committee is able to give, for the information of the members, a digest of the report made by the Superintending Architect.

The operations last year were confined to the Portland stone masonry of the exterior of the building.

The whole of the surfaces, which in places were extensively decayed, were brushed with bristle brushes and about two hundred weights of loose dirt and sooty deposit removed. After the brushing, however, there still remained over the surfaces which had not been exposed to the driving rains, a bituminous deposit, and, moreover, on the underside of projecting features, a kind of stalactyte mingled with bituminous deposit. Both kinds of deposit were impenetrable by the baryta water with which the stonework was to be treated.

The difficulty which presented itself was the removal of the bituminous deposits without injury to the stone. After experiment it was ascertained that a jet of steam would soften and remove them and that the operation was assisted by the application of a solution of caustic soda carefully applied. In this way the deposits were got rid of.

Then all loose and decayed mortar was cleaned away from the joints and the crevices left clean.

The masonry was then given repeated coats of baryta water applied by painter's brushes, until the stone would absorb no more: in many of the more exposed places twenty-five to thirty coats were necessary, and in no place were less than a dozen coats given.

Finally, the joints were filled up with mortar made of one

part of ground lias lime and five parts of coarse washed sand; and missing parts of the dripstones, essential to throw off the rain, were made out roughly to the original forms in mortar and pieces of hand-made tile dowelled into the sound stonework; without any attempt to restore the decorative features.

About a month after the completion of the work an analysis of the treated stone, made by the chief Chemist, showed that the baryta had entered into combination with the stone for a depth of at least three-eighths of an inch from the surface, having the effect of converting the decaying stone into a hard weather resisting substance.

Ludlow Church, Shropshire.

A professional member of the Society has recently seen the "restoration" of the west and south-west portions of the nave now completed. It is gratifying to find that a genuine attempt has been made to preserve where possible the old wall surfaces, at any rate on the lower walls, as a comparison with the earlier restored work, east of the porch, will clearly shew. Where, however, new stone has been inserted it might well have been used more feelingly. On the west front, for example, a course of dressed stone has been introduced across the south aisle wall. It has been built to a line, and consequently the smooth straight surface contrasts painfully with the worn and irregularly-receding surface of the old work. A rougher class of stone or hand-made tiles built in courses (as employed by the Society) would have accommodated itself to the unevennesses of the old surface. The contrast is even more painful in the new weatherings to the buttress tops, where the sharp angles of

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the new stone projecting many inches beyond the rounded angles of the old, will remain a perpetual eyesore.

New pinnacles have been fixed along the nave parapet. It is true that the original pinnacles have long disappeared and that the employment of a stone apparently pitted with sand holes has taken off some of the inevitable hardness of new work. But we would ask even those who believe in "restoration" whether these pinnacles, with their heavy, crowded crockets, do not take more from than they add to the appearance of the church.

The north side of the church is still unspoilt by restoration though we understand it is shortly to be taken in hand. No one denies that it stands in need of careful repair, but we ask those who are responsible to give the matter ample consideration, and decide whether it is not possible to conduct the work on still more conservative lines, so that the quiet dignity of the old work may not be disturbed by such unsympathetic alterations mentioned as having been made on the west front.

Humphrey Chetham's Hospital, Manchester.

In the report for 1911, the Committee expressed the hope that the recommendations made by the Society for the repair of this building were to be carried out.

It is now informed that this has not been the case, as certain of the works suggested have been omitted, while others have been added, as, for example, the rebuilding of three chimney stacks and the repair of the bell turret, which work has been executed in a manner which shows little reverence for the original work.

Old Seven Stars Inn, Manchester.

It has been found impossible to prevent the destruction of this inn, which was one of the last old half timber buildings in the city of Manchester.

The fact that the inn stood in the midst of valuable property, and that no one having influence came forward to help in saving it, has rendered the efforts of the Society of no avail.

Norton Church, Suffolk.

This Church was recently surveyed at the request of the Rector, and a full report dealing with the work necessary was furnished for his guidance.

The walls of the chancel and nave are seriously cracked in several places by the roof thrust, owing to the absence of cross ties. The chancel roof is probably as old as the sixteenth century, and the nave and aisle roofs are modern, having been constructed about fifteen years ago. In each case tie-rods will require to be inserted to relieve the walls of the thrust.

The nave is seated with high deal box pews, probably 100 years old: but as, in this case, these pews are inconvenient to church service, and their removal will not interfere with any fitting or constructive detail which has historic or artistic value, it is proposed to replace them with seats of English oak. A new floor of English oak boards is also required under the seats. The aisles retain old oak seats with carved poppy head ends, and in the chancel are finely carved miserere seats against the walls on either side. The nave and the aisles retain their old plaster on the walls, covered

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with several coats of limewash. It requires to be cleaned and carefully repaired and limewashed anew. The plaster on the walls of the chancel is, unfortunately, modern.

Oakham Castle, Rutland.

In the last report (pp. 43-44) an account was given of this interesting building. The Committee are glad to state that the works of repair which they advised have recently been carried out by an Architect in consultation with the Society.

The chief work to the fabric consisted in arresting the thrust from the eastmost bays of the two arcades which divide the hall lengthways. The massive semi-circular arches spring from carved corbels in the east wall, with flat buttresses on the outside. The thrust of the arches was pushing the wall outwards and causing serious cracks in the arches and the wall over. It was found necessary to strengthen the east wall, by the removal of the rubble core rendered loose by the forcing of the wall outwards, and to rebond the outer and inner faces together with blue lias lime concrete—from the foundation upwards. The wall was further strengthened by building up the six-light seventeenth century window, which was a great source of weakness to the wall.

The displaced stones in the arches were refixed in position, and the open joints grouted in afresh. The walls above the arches were then strengthened by the insertion of a horizontal brick lintel between the outer and inner facing stones, which will help to relieve the arch of the weight of the wall and the roof over it. It will also act as a tie to the east wall and prevent further movement.

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During the repair of the east wall two doorways with pointed arches were discovered in the centre aisle, and also other two doorways in the north aisle, one at the floor level and the other higher up. These have been left exposed. Slight movement had occurred in the two westmost arches of the arcades, which have been repaired.

The south wall, which had split lengthways above the level of the windows, has been bonded together with concrete after the removal of the loose core.

The rubble facing to the walls, which was perishing on the surface, has been repointed, and the stone treated with baryta and lime in order to arrest the decay and harden the stone.

The modern dormer windows of deal, in the roofs of the aisles, have been replaced with new ones of English oak, and glazed with crown glass in leaded lights. The beautiful two-light windows in the walls of the aisles have been glazed in a similar manner, in place of the modern sash windows which disfigured them.

The modern court fittings at the east end of the hall have been removed, and the floor lowered to its original level and paved with Ketton stone.

The fittings to the court at the west end of the hall have been left, with the exception of some galleries which blocked the view of the beautiful arches of the windows.

Their appearance would be greatly improved by painting them a good dark colour in place of the present graining in imitation of oak.

The old plaster on the interior of the walls has been cleaned and treated with two coats of toned limewash. A portion of Norman decoration, which was found on the surface of the plaster, on the west wall of the hall, has been carefully preserved. It is of diaper work sunk on the surface

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of the plaster and enclosed in a circular arch, in imitation of the stone arcades dividing the hall.

A bust of the late Hon. G. Finch, to whose memory the works of repair have been carried out, will be placed at the east end of the hall.

Ockham Church Tower, Surrey.

A description of the work of repair to this tower was given on p. 45 of the last report, during the progress of the work. Since its completion the work has been inspected by a professional member of the Committee and he reports that the work has been carried out in a most successful manner.

Overstrand Church, Norfolk

Members will no doubt have read the correspondence which has appeared in the public press upon the subject of this church.

A faculty has been granted for the proposed "restoration," and the removal of the ivy from the greater part of the remains of the old building allows the beauty of the window arches on the side of the nave to be more easily seen. These arches are to be destroyed in carrying out the "restoration."

This Society has always felt that using a building is the best way to ensure care being taken for its preservation; but, in this case, to re-roof the existing ruined church for the purpose of being used for services will necessitate so much "restoration" that the ancient building will be lost.

Portinscale Bridge, Keswick.

During the past year suggestions have been made to pull down the beautiful bridge which crosses the river at this point, and replace it by a new one. It is stated that the bridge is not of sufficient strength to take modern traffic.

Opposition to the proposal was so strong, and expert opinion from engineers who have extensive experience in like cases, and from this Society, so clearly showed that the bridge could be effectively repaired and strengthened at comparatively small cost, that the matter has been postponed for the present. It is known that the cost to repair has been generously guaranteed by a local resident in the event of such repair proving a failure.

This, with the opinion of the owners of the large hotels in the neighbourhood, who are well conversant with the requirements of modern traffic, should finally succeed in saving the bridge.

The Society is watching for any further move on the part of those who favour the idea of a new bridge, and will, if necessary, use its full influence to prevent the destruction of this fine old bridge, an illustration of which forms the frontispiece of this report.

The Old Town Hall, Prescott, Lancashire.

The Society was approached by the Trustees of this building and asked for a report on its condition, as they had been advised that it was unsafe and should be at once taken down.

A careful inspection was made by an Architect member of the Society, who reported that it was quite possible to

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efficiently repair the building and that it was well worth doing.

The old town hall, built about the middle of the eighteenth century, possesses a pleasing dignity which contrasts favourably with its surroundings. It has been allowed to fall into a bad state of repair and has consequently been closed and now presents an uncared-for appearance.

The exterior is faced with hand-made bricks of a good colour, and stone dressings to the angles and openings.

The hall which occupies the second floor has well proportioned windows, the central one on the front being of three lights, with a semi-circular head over the central one springing from the cornice over the heads of the side lights. The cornices to the windows on either side are enriched with pediments.

It is satisfactory to hear that an effort is being made to raise the money needed to carry out the work of repair, and as the general appearance of the building is of considerable architectural interest, it is to be hoped that the effort will meet with success.

Rycote Chapel, Oxon.

This interesting building, consisting of a chancel and nave under one roof, and a western tower, was recently surveyed by the Society at the request of the owner, and a report furnished for dealing with its repair.

The walls are of stone in good repair, with the exception of the foundations, which are being undermined in places by the roof and surface water, owing to the absence of any means of drainage.

The roof is constructed to a steep pitch, and is covered

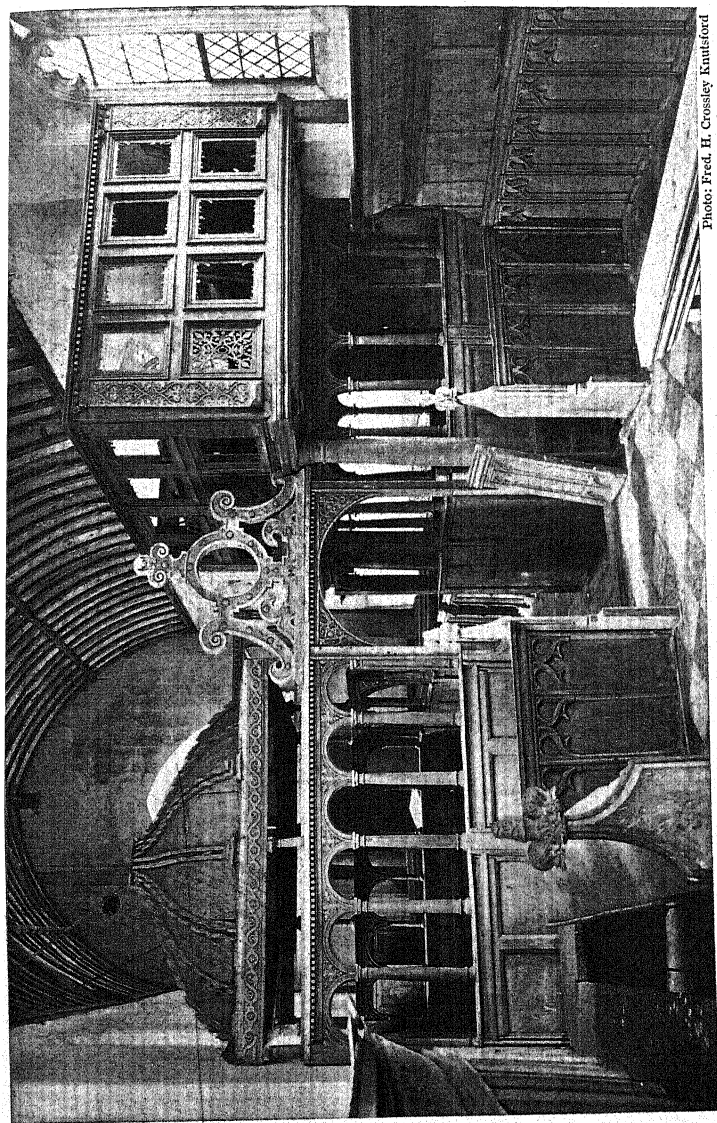


Photo: Fred. H. Crossley Knutsford

RYCOTE CHAPEL, OXON.

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with hand-made tiles, in good condition. Unfortunately the timbers are displaced in consequence of the decay of the wall plates on which they are fixed. Curved oak ribs are framed on the underside of the rafters in the form of a pointed vault, and the spaces between filled with thin boards. Several of the ribs have fallen away from the rafters and are hanging up in a critical manner.

The building retains its original fifteenth-century oak benches and the underportion of the chancel screen.

There is an interesting canopied pew on the south side, and a two-decker pew on the north side, which appear to have been added a century later. The upper portion of the chancel screen was evidently cut away to allow of the side of the pews being constructed on the top of the lower portion of the screen. There is a finely carved reredos in the sanctuary, dated 1689, and the north and south walls of the chancel have oak panelling of the same period.

Unfortunately the reredos and the panelling, as well as the upper pew on the north side of the nave, are grievously broken and incomplete, by reason of visitors removing pieces during the last few years.

It is hoped that the more pressing works of repair will be undertaken shortly, and that the interior fittings will be carefully repaired before long.

Salle Church, Norfolk.

Previous to the Society being asked to undertake the necessary works of repair to this church, the roof and parapet of the nave and the south side and the whole of the north transept had undergone an unfortunate "restoration." The following works have been carried out in consultation

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with the Society by an Architect directing the workmen on the spot.

The fine fourteenth-century roof to the north aisle has been repaired and strengthened in a thorough manner. The work was done from scaffolding erected inside the aisle. The lead and boarding were removed in sections, as well as the rafters where necessary for access to the main timbers. These were repaired in position without removal. The main cross beams were all decayed at the ends, where built into the walls, and had to have new ends of English oak scarfed and bolted to the sound remaining portions of the beams. The longitudinal bearers were repaired in a similar manner where required and further strengthened with plates of iron. The old lead was recast on the site and relaid on deal boarding, fixed on fillets secured to the top of the rafters, to allow of an air space between the oak and deal boarding.

The roofs over the north and south aisles afford an excellent example of the result of the Society's method of repair as against "restoration." Here are two roofs erected at the same period, and practically in the same condition of decay. The north one has been carefully repaired and every portion of the old oak retained that was possible, with the result that it looks as if it had never been touched since its erection. The south one looks modern—as it is—for in the process of "restoration" the roof was taken down, and it requires to be closely looked at to see the few remaining old portions which are entirely lost among the new. Needless to say, the restoration work was carried out under a contract and probably cost twice as much as the repair work. The roofs to the north porch and the south transept have also been repaired in a manner similar to that described in the case of the north aisle.

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The different methods of dealing with the work is also shewn in the parapets on the north aisle and the nave. They are built of stone with panels of flintwork inserted, and in the case of the nave the old parapet was taken down and rebuilt with the old materials, "as far as possible," according to instructions. The result is hard mechanical lines, which make the parapet look as if it was not a portion of the original building. The parapet in the aisle below was not rebuilt, but carefully repaired and strengthened in position, by the removal of the loose flintwork from the back of the wall to the outer facing, which was left standing, and incorporated to a new backing of cement-concrete. The old exterior surface has been left untouched except for the new pointing, and bears the evidence of age and association with the rest of the building.

The masonry of the windows, with exception of the north and south clerestory in the nave, have been repaired, and where necessary, the missing tracery has been renewed in Clipsham stone. The old glazing, which is of beautiful crown glass with portions of stained glass in the heads of some of the windows, has been carefully releaded and refixed.

Extensive repairs have also been done to the floors and roof of the tower, the lead being recast on the latter. Oak louvres have been inserted in the large belfry windows, and the bells re-hung on a new frame of English oak, with massive oak beams for a foundation. Two new bells are to be added to make a peal of eight.

The work to the interior of the building included the repair and limewashing of the plaster on the walls and the cleaning of the masonry. The relaying of the old paving tiles, supplemented with new, on a bed of concrete over a layer of broken rubble, in the nave, aisles and porches, the south

transept being laid with slabs of Ketton stone in irregular sizes. The floors under the seats in the nave were finished with one inch thick English oak boards bedded on mastic. All the old bench ends, with finely carved "poppy heads," have been incorporated in the new seats of English oak for the nave and the choir. The beautiful fifteenth-century pulpit, with remains of its original colouring "red and green," has been fixed on the south side of the nave, together with the Jacobean sounding board, reading and clerk's desk. An organ, with a case of English oak, has been placed at the east end of the north aisle, and a portion of the aisle ad joining has been screened off with English oak panelling for the clergy and choir vestries.

We are deeply indebted to Woolmer White, Esq., of Salle Park, for his generosity and interest in the work.

The Bargate, Southampton.

The fall of a stone from the parapet of the Bargate at Southampton enforced the Town Council to take action to ensure the safety of the public, and works of repair were put in hand without delay.

After the work was commenced a professional member of the Committee was, at the Society's request, allowed to inspect the building, and a copy of his report, containing suggestions of an eminently practical nature, for the completion of its repair, was forwarded to the Town Council.

Previous to his visit the method of repair which had been followed entailed the replacement of much of the old stone-work which might well have been retained, by new stone; and the Committee fear that all the suggestions made in the report are not being carried out.

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Porter's Grange, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

In the Society's last report attention was called to this building and a statement made of the efforts to save it. We are glad now to be able to state that it has become the residence of a well-known Architect who is certain to value it and treat it properly. As it is the only ancient building remaining in Southend this is a matter for congratulation.

Stiffkey Old Hall, Norfolk.

This house was built by Nicholas Bacon, *circa* 1580 when keeper of the Great Seal to Queen Elizabeth.

It consisted of a great court surrounded on three sides and open on the fourth, save for a small gate house set on the centre axis.

It is a plain but good example of the Norfolk manor house of the period, and is built of flint and brick, finished with a thin skin of plaster, externally.

The gate house and about one half of the original design still stand. What remains has been somewhat roughly handled, perhaps 150 years ago.

The internal arrangements were greatly altered to suit the ideas of that time; the exterior fell into a bad state of repair.

Lately the property came into the market and the purchaser sought the advice of the Society as to what should be done to the building to make it suitable for his residence.

A professional member of the Society visited and reported very fully on the case; and the report has been most carefully followed under his superintendence.

Such small changes as were necessary in the internal

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arrangements have been made, and the exterior has been thoroughly repaired with local materials used by local workmen, in the local way.

The time-worn look still remains, and it makes a comfortable house.

Stoke St. Milburgh Church, Shropshire.

The work recommended in last year's report has now been completed. The walls are built of local red and grey sandstone, of low well-built courses in the tower, of a rougher description elsewhere, but almost everywhere suffering from surface decay. The joints were thoroughly raked out and repointed, and the surfaces treated with baryta and lime. Cracks were repaired and the foundations made good in several places. The earth on the north side of the church, which rose to a level of four feet above the floor, was removed and a channel formed of York stone paving laid on cement-concrete. New half-round guttering was fixed, and the old falls replaced with pipes of cast sheet lead.

The roof of the chancel was uncovered, and the pitch pine rafters which were found to be decaying were replaced with English oak rafters, five inches wide. These were ceiled level with the upper side and counter-battened with oak, so as to leave an air space under the tiling, which was relaid on rent oak laths. The nave roof, dated 1707, was repaired and strengthened, and the varnish cleaned off. The beams of the tower roof, which had partially perished from damp, were scarfed, the weather cock repaired and the lead collar made good.

The modern plaster on the inside was removed where it had not already dropped, and the walls replastered with a

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thinner coat, following the unevenness of the stonework. A piece of old plaster-work containing some fragments of painting was found and treated with parafin wax. Two or three boards with the painted figure of an angel and an heraldic pattern were also discovered, and may have formed portion of a rood screen.

The chancel was formerly cramped for space. One of the sanctuary steps has been done away with and this allowed the priest's doorway to be reopened, and a new door of plain wide oak boards was provided for it. The choir seating, which was unworthy of the church, was removed and new seating, planned so as to leave greater space in the chancel, was made from old panelling which had originally formed box pews but had been nailed beneath the modern nave seating. Sufficient was also found to panel the sanctuary wall, and case the "gothic" altar. The altar was shielded by a dorsal and siddels of woven tapestry from the crude colours of the modern east window.

In the nave the pulpit was moved back so as to expose the chancel arch, and an old window at the side opened out. What appears to have been a hagioscope on the south side was also opened, but as the arch had been entirely destroyed it was covered with a plain concrete lintel. At the west end an octagonal space was formed in front of the tower arch, and the "gothic" fontlet replaced by the massive old Norman font.

Other work included the fitting of casements for ventilation, the alteration and repair of the heating apparatus, the removal of a Norman tombstone from the pathway to a place of greater security in the porch, etc. The total cost, inclusive of supervision, was £640. It is regretted that there were not sufficient funds for the repair of the bell cage,

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but some portion of the £80 required has been collected, and it is hoped that the rest will be forthcoming.

St. Peter's Church, Sudbury, Suffolk.

The accompanying illustrations show the appearance of the porch of this church before and after "restoration." It may be seen that before the work was undertaken the walling appeared to be sound and that careful treatment of the perished surface of the stonework was alone necessary. But the dressed stone of the niches has been taken out and replaced by new, and the result is mechanical and inharmonious.

This is an example showing how the work of the past may be spoiled by the insertion and addition of modern work which, though in itself good of its kind, is quite out of keeping with the quiet harmony of the old.

Tattershall Castle, Lincolnshire.

The fate of this most valuable example of a fifteenth-century castle has been watched with anxiety for some time. Happily it has now passed into the possession of the Right Hon. Earl Curzon of Kedleston, who is undertaking extensive works of repair which will ensure its future safety.

The noble Earl has employed an Architect, in consultation with the Society, to direct the works on the spot. A description of these will be given in next year's report.

Thompson Church, Norfolk.

In the report for 1907, the necessary works of repair to this interesting building are fully described. Unfortunately,

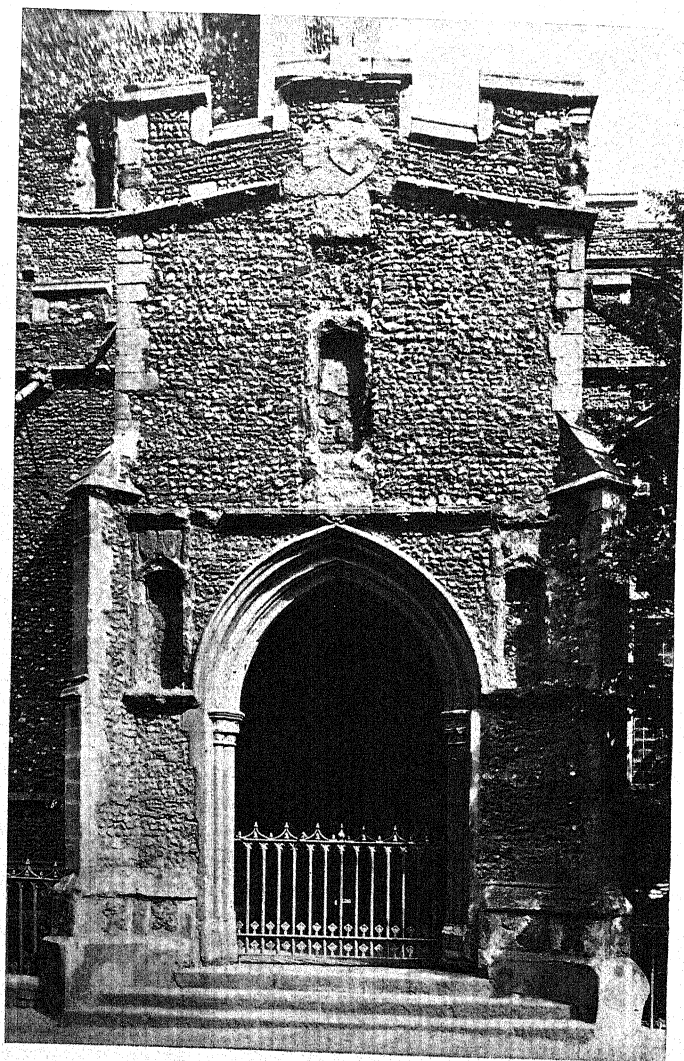


Photo: C.F. Emeny Sudbury

PORCH SUDBURY CHURCH, SUFFOLK.
BEFORE "RESTORATION"

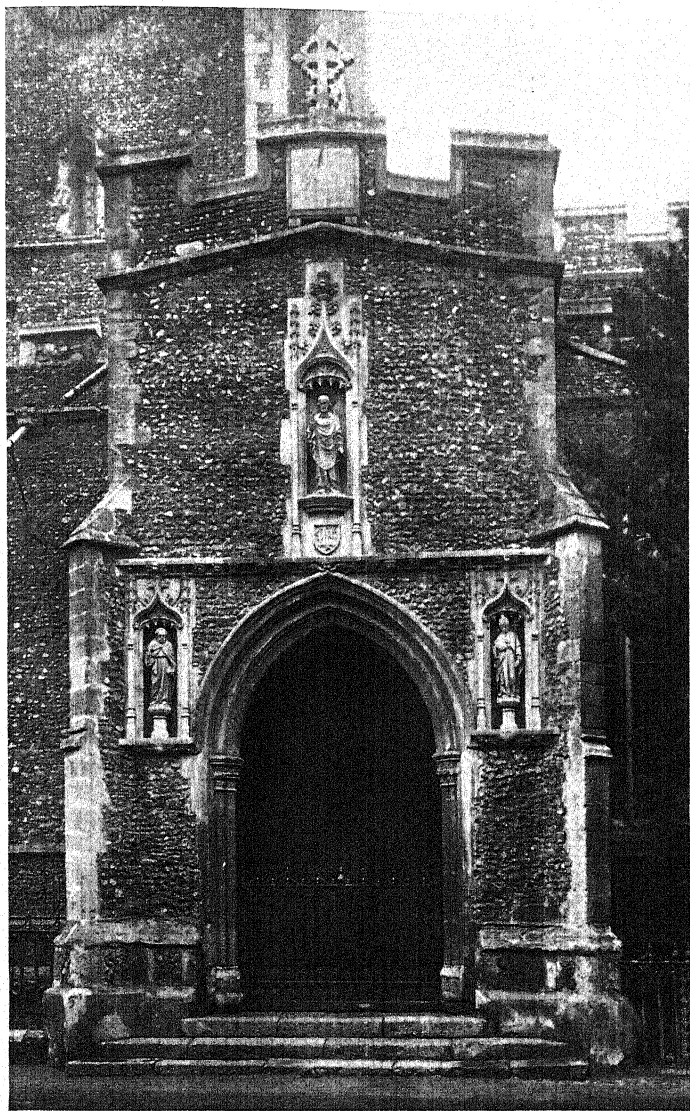


Photo: C.F. Emeny Sudbury

PORCH SADBURY CHURCH, SUFFOLK
AFTER "RESTORATION"

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it has not been possible to raise sufficient money to carry out the whole of the work. However, the roof of the nave, which was in a serious condition, has recently been repaired, and the thatch covering replaced with pan tiles of local make.

The work has been carried out by a builder in the neighbourhood on the lines of the Society's report but, owing to lack of funds, the strengthening of the roof timbers had, to a great extent, to be omitted. The chancel roof is also in need of repair. The main timbers are of slight construction, and have no cross ties to prevent the thrust from pushing out the walls. They ought to be provided with wrought iron tie rods, secured through the feet of each principal.

Toftrees Church, Norfolk.

At the request of the Vicar this church was visited on behalf of the Society, and a report made on its condition. It is proposed to replace the modern flat roof, on the chancel, with a new one of English oak, to the original pitch—which is marked by a stone weathering on the east gable of the nave—and to cover it with the lead from the present roof, which requires to be re-cast. The roof on the tower also needs attention. The belfry stage is missing and the remaining portion is covered with a lead flat, which is protected by a temporary roof of corrugated iron. An open channel is required around the walls for the removal of the rain and surface water clear of the foundations. Some repairs are also required to the slating with which the nave roof is covered. Also the mullions and tracery of the windows must receive attention.

The church possesses a Norman font of great interest.

The Vicar has informed the Society that he is now in a

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position to start the work and it is hoped that it will be commenced shortly.

Court Lodge Farm, Udimore, Sussex.

It is very distressing to have to report that this fine old house has been dismantled, and by the time this is printed will no longer be in existence.

It will no doubt be remembered that the National Trust and this Society have taken action, from time to time for many years, with a view to the preservation of the building.

This Society even went as far as to prepare a scheme for adapting the building as cottages, but the owner could not be persuaded to agree, and a valuable record of ancient building methods and art has, therefore, been destroyed.

It is understood that two new cottages are to be built from the proceeds of the sale of the old material.

*The Beauchamp Chapel, St. Mary's Church,
Warwick.*

In the annual report for 1911, there is a note on the Beauchamp Chapel. It is satisfactory to report that it is now intended to carry out the work of repair in the manner suggested by this Society, and outlined in the note in the report above mentioned.

Westhorpe Church, Suffolk.

Certain works to the fabric and roofs of this church were described in the last report. A further section of the work has been since undertaken, and the church, which has not

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been used for many years (services having been confined to the chancel), has recently been re-opened. The work consisted of the repair of the massive old seats in the nave and the aisles, the relaying of the floors on a solid bed of concrete over a layer of dry rubble; and the provision of a Gurney stove for warming the building. A beautiful old pulpit, which was discovered in the rectory barn, has been carefully repaired and reinstated in place of the modern pulpit of pitch pine, for which the old one had evidently been ejected. The beautiful screens enclosing the Tudor "Mary Chapel" have been carefully repaired and the modern paint successfully removed from them.

West Horsley Church, Surrey.

The works of repair to this building, which came before the Society in 1908, are now being carried out under the auspices of the Society. An account of them will probably be given in the next report.

West Walton Church, Norfolk.

A description of this church will be found in the 1907 report, and the work of repair to the nave is described and illustrated in that for 1908.

Attention is now to be given to the condition of the south aisle, and funds are being collected for its repair. This work is most urgent, and it is hoped that sufficient money may be forthcoming to enable it to be done this year, before it is too late to save the roof, which is now propped up in many places by temporary deal posts and poles, and the covering of which is in such bad condition that the rain penetrates in

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large quantities. The Society has promised a small donation from the Building Fund towards the cost of this work.

Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, Whitchurch, Bucks.

The works of repair to this interesting building, which the last report (p. 62) stated were in progress under the advice of the Society, have now been completed in a successful manner.

Extensive repairs to the walls were necessary owing to the thrust from the old roofs having cracked them in many places. The cracks have been cut out from the inside face, and the walls rebonded in the Society's usual manner. The rubble facing of the exterior of the walls has been carefully repaired and repointed with blue lias lime and sharpsand mortar. A concrete channel, faced with hard bricks, has been provided around the outside of the walls and connected to drains for the removal of the roof and surface water.

The old oak roofs of the chancel, nave, and the north and south aisles have been carefully repaired and strengthened, and the old lead recast on the site and relaid on deal boarding in a thorough manner.

The old pavings of brick and stone inside the church have been relaid on a bed of cement concrete over a layer of broken rubble, the floor under the seats being relaid with English oak boards bedded on mastic. Some very fine old glazed tiles, with decorative patterns, were found under the more modern pavings, and these have been carefully arranged in the floor of the sanctuary.

The masonry of the windows has been thoroughly repaired and the old crown glass releaded and refixed in the openings. The boarding partition shutting off the tower and the westmost bays of the aisles has been removed, and the

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floors in the tower repaired and the oak boarding relaid, being supplemented with new where necessary.

The church was seated with modern deal seats in poor condition. These have been replaced with seats of English oak. There were some old oak seats at the west end of the nave which have been carefully repaired and refixed in their old positions.

The old plaster on the interior of the walls has been repaired, cleaned of the many coats of lime-wash, and afterwards treated with lime-wash toned with colour. A fine old painting was discovered on the wall of the north aisle, which has been carefully uncovered. It depicts St. Margaret coming out of the dragon.

The church has been provided with a large Gurney stove at the west end of the nave, with the flue pipe carried up through the roof of the north aisle.

St. Swithin's Church, Worcester.

The Committee has much pleasure in reporting that the proposed scheme for the "restoration" of this church has been abandoned and that the necessary works of repair are being carried out under the Society's auspices.

Porch of St. Margaret's Church, Walmgate, York.

The last report (p. 63) mentioned the urgent need for the repair and preservative treatment of this most valuable building. The Committee regrets that the work has not yet been undertaken, and it hopes that the necessary funds will be obtained and the work put in hand before another winter increases the decayed condition of the stone, and further obliterates the beautiful Norman carving.

LIST OF BUILDINGS WHICH HAVE COME BEFORE THE SOCIETY DURING THE YEAR :

Abingdon Abbey, Berks.	Cambridge, Queen's College.
Adwick-on-Deerne Church, Yorks.	Candleston Castle, Glamorgan-
Aldershot, Old Parish Church.	shire.
Ansley Church, Warwickshire.	Carnarvon Castle.
Anwick Church, Lincs.	Cartmel Fell Church, Lancs.
Ashby-de-la-Zouch Church,	Cheltenham Church, Gloucester-
Leicestershire.	shire.
Ayr, N.B., Collegiate Church of	Chipping Campden Church,
St. John.	Gloucestershire.
Banbury, Oxon., Globe Room,	Chithurst Church, Sussex.
Reindeer Inn.	Chivelstone Church, S. Devon.
Battlefield Church, Salop.	Christchurch Priory Church,
Bearsted Church, Kent.	Hants.
Beverley Minster, Yorks.	Cleeve Abbey, Somerset.
Birling Place, Kent, Ancient Barn.	Cirencester Church, Gloucester-
Birmingham Cathedral Church	shire.
Tower.	Cockfield Church, Durham.
Boston, Lincs., The Guild Hall.	Cocking Church, Sussex.
Brandon, Suffolk, Bridge.	Colne Church, Lancs.
Branscombe Church, Devon.	Compton Beauchamp Church,
Brockhampton, Worcestershire,	Berks.
Ancient House.	Corfe Castle, Dorset.
Bunney Church, Notts.	Corsham, Wilts., The Hungerford
Burton Coggles Church, Lincs.	Almshouses.
Burwell Church, Lincs.	Cowdray House, Midhurst, Sussex,
Cadney Church, Lincs.	Ruins of.

Cranwell, Lincs., Village Cross.	Flatford Bridge, Suffolk.
Croydon, Surrey, Whitgift Hospital.	Foston Church, Yorks.
Croyland, Lincs., Ancient Bridge.	Fowlescombe, Ivybridge, Devon.
Curry Rivel Church, Somerset.	Fressingfield Church, Suffolk.
Cyprus, Antiquities of.	Fritton Church, Norfolk, Screens
Dartford, Kent, Bull Hotel.	Frodingham, Lincs., Church of
Dartmoor, Devon, "The King's Oven."	St. Laurence.
Dartmouth, Devon, "The Butter Walk."	Gallygaer, Glamorgan, Roman Fort.
Denbury Church, Devon.	Gilmonby Bridge, Yorks.
Deritend, Birmingham, Ancient House.	Grantham, Lincs., Ancient Cross.
Downton-on-the-Rock Church, Herefordshire.	Graveney Church, Kent.
Dunster, Somerset, The Yarn Market.	Great Chart, Kent, Ancient House.
Eastbourne, Sussex, Old Parsonage.	Guestling, Sussex, Ancient House.
East Portlemouth Church, Devon.	Guildford, Surrey, Ancient Cottages, Farnham Road.
Edstaston Church, Salop.	Guildford, Surrey, Holy Trinity Church.
Eltham Palace, Kent.	Hadleigh Castle, Essex.
Ely, Cambs., Bridge at.	Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire.
Eton College, Bucks.	Hardwick Old Hall, Derbyshire.
Evesham, Worcestershire, All Saints' Church.	Harlton Church, Cambs.
Evesham, Worcestershire, Tower House, Bridge Street.	Hawstead, Suffolk, Ancient House.
Eynsford, Kent, Ancient House at.	Heath Chapel, Salop.
Exeter Cathedral.	Hereford, All Saints' Church Tower.
Fairfield Church, Romney Marsh, Kent.	Hightown, Crewe, Ancient House.
Farnham, Surrey, Ancient Houses.	Highworth, Wilts., Ancient Barn.
Flamstead Church, Herts.	Hinton Abbey, Somerset.
	Holmer Church, Herefordshire.
	Honeychurch Church, Devon.
	Hornchurch, Essex, Breton's Farm.
	Horringer Church, Suffolk.
	Iffley Church Tower, Oxon.

Ilfracombe, Devon, Ancient Houses.	London, St. Alphage Church, London Wall.
Indian Monuments.	London, Smithfield, Ancient Houses, Bartholomew Close.
Inglesham Church, Wilts.	London, Southgate, N., Broomfield Park.
Kempley Church, Gloucestershire.	London, Whitehall Gardens, Board of Trade Offices.
King's Lynn, Norfolk, Lantern Tower of Grey Friars' Church.	Luckington Church, Wilts.
Kirdford, Sussex, Thorn House.	Ludlow Church, Salop.
Langport Church, Somerset.	Lutton Church, Lincs.
Leake Church, Yorks.	Malmesbury Abbey, Wilts.
Lechlade Church, Gloucestershire.	Malmesbury, Wilts., The Market Cross.
Leicester, Groby Old Hall.	Manchester, Humphrey Chetham's Hospital.
Leicester, St. Margaret's Church Tower.	Manchester Cathedral.
Leigh upon Mendip Church, Somerset.	Manchester, Old Seven Stars Inn.
Linton Church, Teviotdale.	Marston Trussel Church, Northamptonshire.
Litlington Church, Sussex.	Metheringham, Lincs., Market Cross
Little Cressingham Church, Norfolk.	Middleton Church, Lancs., Screens.
Little Malvern Priory Church, Worcestershire.	Mold Church, Flintshire.
Little Steeping Church, Lincs.	Monreale Cloisters, Sicily.
Llangellynin Church, Merionethshire.	Muchelney, Somerset, Old Priest's House.
Lockington Church, Leicestershire.	Naseby Church, Northamptonshire, Coffin Lid.
London, Adelphi, York Water Gate.	Newark Abbey, Surrey.
London, Hackney, Old Church Tower, Mare Street.	North Hinksey Church, Oxon.
London, St. George's Church, Hanover Square.	North Marston Church, Bucks.
London, Kilburn, The Grange.	Norton Church, Suffolk.
	Norwich, St. Stephen's Corner.

Oakham Castle, Rutland.	Southend-on-Sea, Essex, Porter's Grange.
Ockham Church Tower, Surrey.	South Petherton, Somerset, Ancient House.
Oddington Church, Gloucestershire.	Spexhall Church, Suffolk.
Ogmore Castle, Glamorganshire.	Stanton Lacy Church, Salop.
Overstrand Church, Norfolk.	State Control of Ancient Buildings.
Packwood Church, Warwickshire.	Stoke Mandeville Old Church, Bucks.
Penard Castle, Glamorganshire.	Stoke St. Milburgh Church, Salop.
Penn, Staffordshire, Ancient Churchyard Cross.	Stowe-nine-Churches Church, Northamptonshire.
Penshurst Place, Kent.	Stretford Church, Herefordshire.
Portinscale Bridge, Keswick.	Sudbury, Suffolk, Ancient House.
Prescot, Lancs., Old Town Hall.	Sudbury Church, Suffolk.
Radcot Bridge, Berks.	Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire, Ancient House.
Radnage Church, Bucks.	Swansea Castle, Glamorganshire.
Ragdale Old Hall, Leicestershire.	Tattershall Castle, Lincs.
Rapisham, Dorset, Ancient Churchyard Cross.	Tattershall Church, Lincs.
Rodel Church, Isle of Harris.	Thaxted, Essex, The Guildhall.
Romford, Essex, Repton Cottage.	Threlkeld Church, Cumberland.
Romsey Abbey, Hants.	Todwick Church, Yorks.
Ruislip, Middlesex, Ancient House.	Toftrees Church, Norfolk.
Runwell Church, Essex.	Topsham Church, Devon.
Rushbrooke Hall, Suffolk.	Tutbury Church, Staffs.
Rycote Chapel, Oxon.	Tysoe Church, Warwickshire.
Salle Church, Norfolk.	Udimore, Sussex, Court Lodge Farm.
Salthouse Church, Norfolk.	Walesby Church, Lincs.
Selby, Yorks., Old Houses.	Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, Old Manor House.
Selby, Yorks., Toll Bridge.	Warborough Church, Oxon.
Seville, Roman Aqueduct.	Warwick, The Beauchamp Chapel, St. Mary's Church.
Shap Abbey, Westmorland.	
St. Malins Lee, Salop, Chapel at.	
Southampton, Bargate.	
Southampton, Norman and Tudor Houses.	

Wells Cathedral.	Wimborne Minster, Bel .
West Barkwith Church, Lincs.	Winchester Cathedral.
West Drayton Church Tower,	Winchester College Chapel.
Middlesex.	Winchester, St. Cross Hospital.
West Horsley Church, Surrey.	Worcester, All Saints' Church.
West Twyford Church, Middle-	Worcester, St. Swithin's Church.
sex, Monuments.	Yarnton Church, Oxon.
West Walton Church, Norfolk.	York, St. Cuthbert's Church.
Wickham Hants, Ancient	York, St. Margaret's Church,
Cottage.	Walmgate, Porch.
Widford Church, Oxon.	

"KENT" FUND.

Members of the Society subscribed the sum of £128 18s., for the benefit of the widow and daughter of the late Assistant Secretary, Mr. John Kent, and the Committee have invested the amount in the joint names of Mr. Thackeray Turner and Mr. F. Colebourn, brother-in-law of Mr. Kent, the interest arising from the investment being paid, to the beneficiaries, half yearly.

REPORT OF GENERAL MEETING.

THE General Meeting of the Society was held on Friday, June 28th, 1912, in the Rooms of the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, W., by kind permission of that Society.

In the absence of Sir Schomberg K. McDonnell, G.C.V.O., K.C.B., who was unable to attend, the Chair was taken by Mr. Thackeray Turner, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., who read the following letter from Sir Schomberg K. McDonnell.

H.M. OFFICE OF WORKS,
STOREY'S GATE,
WESTMINSTER, S.W.

8th June, 1912.

DEAR SIR,

Your Society was so kind as to ask me to take the Chair at the General Meeting on Friday, the 28th. It would have given me very great pleasure to do so, and I have been looking forward to the occasion. I regret, however, very much to say that, under my Doctor's orders, I am compelled to leave London on Saturday next to take a course of baths at Nauheim in Germany, which will render it impossible for me to be present. Pray express my great regret to the Society that this should be so. I am sure it is not necessary for me to say that we at the Office of Works are most anxious in every way to co-operate with the Society, so that in all cases where Ancient Monuments are threatened, concerted action on the part of all who are interested in their preservation may be possible.

Believe me,
Yours truly,
SCHOMBERG K. McDONNELL.

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The Chairman in proposing that the Report be taken as read, and adopted, called special attention to the need for new members and pointed out that the balance sheet showed a deficit on last year's working. This he described as a matter of importance, for without sufficient funds the efficiency of the work of the Society would be considerably reduced.

The motion was seconded by Professor W. R. Lethaby, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., and carried unanimously.

A resolution, respecting the care of Arabic Art in Egypt, was moved by the Chairman, who said it would be sent to Lord Kitchener of Khartoum, if passed unanimously. He was able to state that Lord Kitchener takes a very real interest in the proper protection of ancient buildings and felt sure that he would not resent an expression of the Society's views. The resolution was as follows :

Having regard to the Conservative treatment of repairs to those buildings placed under the charge of the "Comité de Conservation des Monuments de l'Art Arabe," seeing that amongst the list of "Membres Resident" England is represented by only two persons, Mr. Dupuis and Mr. Farnall—seeing that the Conservation method of repair to ancient buildings originated with English Archæologists and Artists, headed by William Morris, and that England continues to lead in this matter. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings ventures to urge that, if possible, the Acting Committee of the "Comité de Conservation" may be strengthened by the addition of English Members, chosen, not because of their position *ex-officio*, but because of their artistic and archæological sympathies with the system of Conservative repair to ancient buildings.

Mr. Giles T. Pilcher in seconding the resolution said he had examined the "Exercice of the Comité de Conservation

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des Monuments de l'Art Arabe," for the Society, and had brought to the notice of the Committee many points which led to the present resolution.

The resolution was carried unanimously. The Master of Charterhouse, the Rev. Gerald S. Davies, then read the following paper:

A PLEA FOR REVERENCE.

When I was asked some little time ago to give an address before this Society my first instinct—and I fear you will presently say a right one—was to refuse on the ground that I was not fit to speak on such subjects as were open to me before a company composed of persons any one of whom had a better right to be heard. But giving it a few days' thought I came to believe that it might be good that one who wears the uniform which I wear, and who has been a member of the Society since its very earliest days, should give some reason for the faith that is in him, and for his ever strengthening belief in the aims and spirit of this Society. For it can be no secret that it is to members of my profession, whom I regard with profoundest respect and affection, that a very large amount of the Restoration, that is to say the disappearance, of our most ancient most venerable and most loveable landmarks, has been due. There is no one who will doubt that it has been done with the best intention in almost every case—done with no conscious irreverence, done often at great pains and self-sacrifice. But DONE. And the doing of it has taken away from us, and from all generations to follow us, visions which were amongst the most precious that had been bequeathed to the human race. The doing of it

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has quenched for many the lamp of memory. Above all it has unwittingly taught a lesson of irreverence which this age, perhaps least of all that have passed upon the Earth, can afford to learn.

But I beg you to let me at once correct any impression which perhaps has already sprung out of my words, that I am here to preach a sermon, or that I propose to speak in any sense as an Ecclesiastic, or that I am proposing to limit our principles to the interests which could in any way be described as ecclesiastical. I make no claim for Cathedral more than for Castle: for Church more than for Cottage: no more for a Christian Shrine, than for a Roman Amphitheatre, or for a Hindoo temple. The plea for Reverence which I make is not tied up to any concrete form of religion at all—to any shape of *definable* worship at all—to any building devoted to the higher needs of man any more than to the buildings of his daily needs and daily toil. You will not mistake me here again as under-rating the Reverence which binds us with a special tie to any building which can claim a sacred purpose. I am far more disposed to over-rate it, if it were possible. But my appeal is rather on behalf of that broader, more abstract, more universal quality of Reverence which is implanted in every human being in quantity more scanty or more liberal, in form more crude or more majestic, in expression more inarticulate or more eloquent, but *there* always *there* in some shape or quantity and a thing always to be honoured and loved as one of the very best and most ennobling gifts that has been given to man. For it is the gift by which one man obtains wholesome, satisfying, sympathetic delight out of any good work or beautiful work, or at any rate sincere work, done by another man, whether that other man be living or whether that other be

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dead, work bequeathed by living hands to living hearts and living eyes.

And this sense of Reverence is almost identical with the sense of Beauty though it is more widely embracing. You cannot, for example, separate our sense of the Beauty of Earth from the sense of Reverence for it: though those who most exemplify the sense are not always those who most consciously recognise it. To illustrate my meaning—when we have watched a sunset of peculiar glory to its close, the sensuous enjoyment of colour and of cloud-shape has been with us no doubt to the full and more fully in proportion to the artistic temperament of him who has watched it. But *no one* can have failed to know the mysterious sense of grateful awe that is over us when it has ended, the aftermath of perfectly spontaneous innate Reverence which you cannot define but which you can feel. It is so in a degree more or less perceptible or imperceptible but mostly imperceptible, with every natural scene or object into whose enjoyment our natural sense of Beauty leads us.

But I have used this instance only that I may be allowed to transfer the argument from the Beauty of Earth, which is not of our immediate purpose, to the Beauty and worthiness of the work of a man's hand, and to the Reverence which we owe to it as the highest and indeed the only visible expression and monument of man's life on earth.

I must, however, draw our subject within still narrower bounds. For though there may be equal need for Protection Societies to guard the heritage bequeathed to us from the past in Painting or Sculpture, in Smithery or Weavery or Needlework, or any or all of the Arts and Crafts by which men and women have expressed and passed on to us their sense of Beauty, yet we of this Society bear only the name

of the Society for the protection of Ancient Buildings. It is, therefore, with reference to this great and greatest branch of our human trust that we must plead for the Reverence of the Preserver as against the Irreverence of the well-meaning Restorer.

I say deliberately—this great and greatest branch of our human trust in things created by man, and I say THAT without treason to any other art. For there is one consideration which gives to the art of the Builder or of the Architect a place which the other arts cannot claim.

The Builder's art as it is probably the *first* in order of the arts developed by man is also the most essential—the art which above all others differentiates MAN from the rest of the animal Kingdom. For if you could take away from man all his other Arts, Sculpture, Painting, Music and the rest, he *could* do without them, that is he could *exist* without them. He would be poorer, infinitely poorer. It would be a forlorn and shrunken existence but he would still be MAN. He could be still catalogued by the Naturalists as man, but if you could take away from him the Building faculty—his power of constructing a home out of existing materials, he must at once revert completely to the condition of the nearest animal. Now that is true in the same degree of no other art.

And from the first rude shelter of boughs and grasses, perhaps only a stage better than the lair of the bigger apes, up through all the other lost stages to the wattled huts of the lake dwellers, the skin tents of the nomad, the Korta of the Laplander, and on and on to the Cottage and the Mansion, to the Palace and the Castle, to the Church and the Cathedral, the History of man upon earth has been written all over it by his building Craft, at first, indeed in letters so frail and so perishable that all memory of them passed in a few

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brief years—written in later yet prehistoric days in letters of stone so imperishable that time of itself alone seems powerless to remove them, and it needs the destroying hand of man himself to take them from us—and written lastly in these latest ages which we call Historical times in letters of stone once more so shapely, so glorious, so loveable, that nowhere, not even in his Poetry or his Painting, his Music or his Sculpture has MAN expressed the higher Powers of his being in language which goes so straight to the heart of man.

But for the removing of much of this message from the eyes of man we have had to wait for the Subscription list and the Restorer.

“Nonsense, says the Restorer! We are the very people who preserve for you this message and renew it and enable the Human race who you say are to be ennobled by it, reverently to cherish what else would be illegible to them.”

No you don't do anything of the kind, you remove from our eyes the living loving message and you give us back, even when you have numbered and replaced these stones themselves after scraping and refacing them, what is at best a chilling lifeless copy—a discouraging ghost—another building standing in the place of and filling the space of that which stood there. It is no more the real building than a stuffed animal is the creature we used to know in life. It is no more able to awake in us the old love and reverence—that perfectly indescribable set of feelings which come to us when we set eyes on some well-known, well-loved face, or set foot within some ancient untouched Cathedral,—well! your restored, stiffened, scraped restoration is no more able to call up all that, than would the waxwork figure of your mother if you should set it up in the chair by the fireside where you used to know her as she sat.

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And indeed I have often wondered what would happen to us—any of us I mean who are still young enough to have a living mother with us,—if after an absence we were to come back and find that some one had persuaded her to have herself made beautiful for ever by a Bond Street Restorer, who should have dyed for her her silver hair into the colour which it bore when she was a girl, and smoothed out all the kindly wrinkles which time and the length of days had wrought there, under a plaster of enamel and powder and paint. “There,” says the Restorer, “that’s your mother. You liked her as she was, we know, but she was old and rather surface-worn. Now we have done her up for you and she’ll last ever so long like that.”

For an ancient building, like a dear old face, does not belong to any one single moment or year of its existence. It is not even the mere product of the mind or of the hands of the designer or the masons who at any given time designed it or raised it or changed it. However grand the design, however capable the masonry, however loving the craftsmanship, it is something far more than this. It is of course all this but with the added *gifts* not *losses* which time alone can give, and above all with the added sympathy of a long life history—the fact that under these very very stones long generations walked and worked, that the eyes of generation after generation rested on these very surfaces while they the beholders and these the stones were making History, or were living and enduring while History was made. All this is irreplaceable, cannot be restored—though it all *can* be taken away. And it is all written on the face of an ancient building. It is not—cannot be,—written on the face of the modern imitation, the modern copy which we to-day may place there in its stead.

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The day has gone by—almost but not quite—when any educated man accuses this Society of desiring to stand in the way of due repair and precaution, due preservation and strengthening. I need not I am sure waste *your* time and weary *your* patience by arguing the point. Wherever the Society has been consulted with reference to any ancient building—and it is good to know that this has been more and more the case of late years—its advice has been wholly directed and, as some of us could testify by concrete examples, successfully directed to necessary preservation, to strengthening and to repair. There is, I am convinced no officer of the Society, no member of the Council, and no ordinary member who would for a moment advocate any other course, any more than he would, as in the case of his mother aforesaid, recommend when she had a serious illness that she should not be doctored and cared for. Indeed it is this constant watchfulness and care for the health of a building and for the structural safety all along the line of its life that is the very first of duties towards it: but all surface falsifying, and all replacement of crumbling ornament, and substitution of false new fronts for old ones is mere painting of the face and tiring of the hair, of the mother who has taught us at her knee.

We are short-life tenants and trustees of a priceless heritage bequeathed to us from the past. We are not irresponsible owners. There is no moment in the life of a noble building at which any man who justly gauges what is due to his tenancy, ought to be able to say, 'this is mine to do exactly as I will with it.' It has come down the ages stage by stage under many and many an eye through many and many a hand, losing here and there a little by Time and Weather but gaining also something by the beauty which Time and

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Weather alone, in its kind, can give alike to a building which is intrinsically beautiful or to one which may not be so—verily a merciful rain which falls alike upon the just and on the unjust. So it has come down generation by generation to its present legal owner, or to its present stewards in trust. Is it to stop at them? ought it morally—I say nothing of legally—to stop at them? ought it be possible to a mind or to minds of real reverence to say, “In me, or in *us*, you have touched infallible wisdom at last. I, or we, can give you something better than what you had—an up-to-date copy that will be really worthy of *me*, or *us*, and of the present time of day.”

I used the phrase ‘short-life’ tenants. Yes it’s a very short life indeed, compared to the life of a rock or a tree or even of an ancient building. But how much shorter we make it for ourselves if we uproot the visible memories and destroy the landmarks which helped us to live eye to eye with those that have lived before us, which enabled us to stretch out our hands backward to the past, to be with them in sympathy through the likeness of our lives and its common sights, its common interests, its common pleasures, which enabled us to walk the same English fields with them, to lift the head to the same Cathedral, the same Castle, the same red-roofed houses of the town beneath. No great change in what we saw, and what they saw, save that Castle or Cathedral, and red-roofed homes have taken on a deeper tone of grey and gold. It is thus that our short life is allowed to prolong itself backwards and to join hands across the ages with the lives of other men. Forwards we cannot prolong it save by hope, because we cannot set eyes upon it. But speaking humbly as one who has no hopelessness about the future, but who hopes all things from it, I yet

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venture also as one who has seen in the last fifty years so many and many a thing of beauty pass out of sight under the hands of the Destroyer and the Restorer, to ask if it may not be well even for the most hopeful and certainly for those whose activities are in all honesty doing most towards making possible the realisation of hopes—to give themselves pause, and to ask if there is not for us a real danger of wronging the generations to come by taking away from them that which we in our day received from the generations which have gone.

Mr. Richardson Evans proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer and called attention to the Master's great knowledge of and care for the ancient buildings of Charterhouse.

Mr. Halsey Ricardo, F.R.I.B.A., in seconding the vote of thanks, showed what a very human thing a building is, and how it strongly expresses the mind of its period. He mentioned as examples of this the organisation of the Roman Empire and the idealism of Mediæval Europe. Both qualities he said were perhaps more clearly shown in the buildings of these periods than in any other way.

A vote of thanks to the Society of Antiquaries for the use of the Rooms was passed on the motion of Mr. Walter Cave, F.R.I.B.A., who expressed the feeling of the meeting when he said that it very gladly accepted the use of the rooms as it showed again the feeling of fellowship in a good cause which existed between the two Societies.

This was seconded by Mr. Ernest E. Bowden.

Mr. Philip Norman, LL.D., acknowledged this vote of thanks on behalf of the Society of Antiquaries, and in the course of his remarks deplored the suggested removal of more of the iron railings from the Cloisters of Eton College.

REPORT, 1912

On the motion of Mr. Emery Walker, F.S.A., seconded by Mr. Philip Norman, LL.D., a vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman for presiding. The Chairman having responded, the proceedings terminated.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1911.				Dr.					
RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.
To Balance at the 31st December, 1910, as last statement	...	104	1	3	By Payments during the year 1911:				
Donations	...	3	3	0	Donations to Repair Fund, Edstaston Church, Shropshire				
Amount received for specified building: Old Priest's House, Muchelney	...	70	9	6	For Repair of Old Priest's House, Muchelney				
					Cash at London City and Midland Bank on December 31st, 1911				
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Audited and compared with books and vouchers, and found correct,

WM. SIMMONS.

14th June, 1912.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

Dr.

MORRIS FUND, 1911.

Cr.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, as per last statement	68 18 2	By Amount on Deposit at the London City and Midland Bank, at December 31st, 1911	70 4 9
„ Interest	1 6 7		
	<u>£70 4 9</u>		<u>£70 4 9</u>

Audited and compared with books and vouchers, and found correct,

WM. SIMMONS.

14th June, 1912.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1911.		Dr.		Cr.	
RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.			
To Balance at 31st December, 1910,	£ s. d.	By Payments during the year 1911 :	£ s. d.		
as per last statement	3 18 9½	Printing	32 0 6		
Receipts during the year 1911 :		Office Expenses, including			
Annual and Life Subscriptions	279 13 6	Secretary's Travelling Ex-			
Donations	1 11 0	penses	30 5 5		
Received for Travelling Ex-		Members' Travelling Expenses	5 19 10½		
penses in visiting Buildings,		Secretary's Salary	120 0 0		
sale of Reports, etc.	5 9 5½	Secretary's Salary	91 0 0		
	286 13 11½	Clerk's Salary	25 0 0		
		Rent of Office	304 5 9½		
	290 12 9				
Balance due to retiring Secre-		Cash at London City and			
tary for Office Expenses	21 15 3½	Midland Bank, 31st Decem-			
		ber, 1911	8 2 3		
	£312 8 0½				
					£312 8 0½

Audited and compared with books and vouchers, and found correct,

W. M. SIMMONS.

14th June, 1912.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

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 will be obliged by the error being pointed out to him.

Obituary.

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Sir W. H. Allchin, M.D.

Sir L. Alma Tadema, O.M., R.A.

Vernon Lushington, K.C.

J. H. Metcalfe.

F. D. Millet.

Lady Maria Ponsonby

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H. S. Webb.

J. R. Yorke.

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings

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*Names and Addresses of persons who, in my opinion, would be interested to see a copy of the Report of the Society. You may mention my name to those marked**

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